

## Candy Animal Poo

This workshop can be done as a class or it can be done at a table set up for the general public.

### What you do:

Scat is the name for animal poo that is found in the wild. The way the scat looks can tell scientists a lot about what animals are in the area, how many and what the animals eat. Sometimes it is difficult to see the animals directly, so the poo that they leave behind is the next best thing. People who study wild animal poo are called scatologists. The scat from a certain animal, say a dog, will have a certain shape and texture. Today we will be studying the shapes of different animal waste and matching that shape to something you may enjoy in your everyday life, candy.

### Distribute the handouts

These are the animals that we will explore today and the pictures of their scat. How would you describe the deer scat? The raccoon scat? How do the raccoon and deer scat differ? Is there a type of candy that the raccoon scat might resemble?

### Hand out the worksheets

This is a list of the different candies that we will work with today. Your job as scatologists is to match the candy with the animal that has a similar poo shape. You should pay careful attention to the animal scat pictures before choosing which candy for each animal. You may want to place a sample of the candy scat on the picture of the animal before you fill in your final answers on the worksheet. I will now hand out the various candy samples. Please do not eat the samples.

Distribute samples to each student. Give them time to complete the activity. When they are through, regain the group's attention.

Which animal's scat did you think looked like chocolate sprinkles? Take answers. If the students vary in their answers, have each student explain why they chose that candy. If the explanation is valid, the choice is fine. There are really no "correct" answers. I thought the mouse scat looked like chocolate sprinkles.

### Continue through the rest of the worksheet

You have been observant scatologists today. Now you can go ahead and eat your candy scat models.

### What you need (per student)

- Handout of possible animals
- Candy Animal Poo worksheets
- Handout of different animal scat pictures
- Pen or pencil
- Several of each of the following candies: Tootsie Rolls, chocolate sprinkles, chocolate-covered macaroons, Raisinettes, brown M&M's, licorice jelly beans, Baby Ruth or O'Henry bars, mini-kisses (or regular if you can't find the minis)
- Paper towels

# Candy Animal Poo

**Candy (Scat)**

**Animal**

Chocolate sprinkles

Chocolate macaroons

M&M's

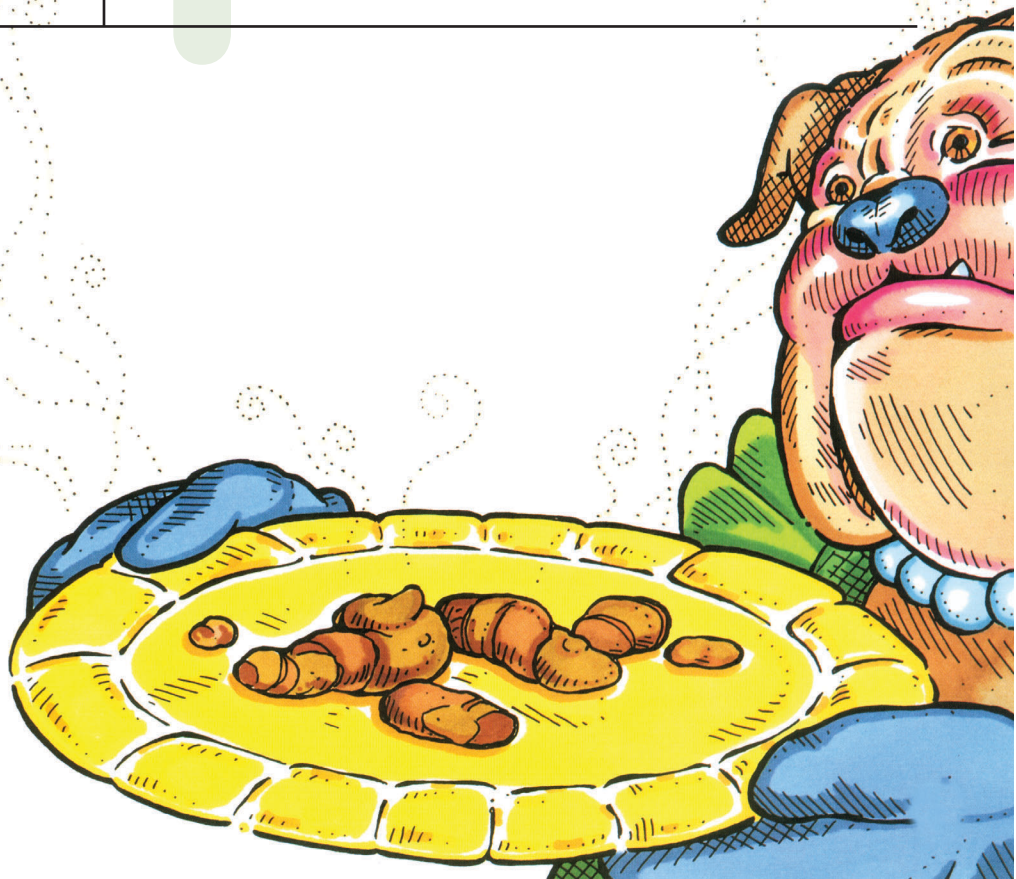
Raisinettes

Jelly beans (licorice)

Baby Ruth/O'Henry

Hershey's Kisses

Tootsie Rolls



# Suggested Answers for Candy Animal Poo

Candy (Scat)	Animal
Chocolate sprinkles	Mouse
Chocolate macaroons	Beaver
M&M's	Rabbit
Raisinettes	Deer
Jelly beans (licorice)	Rat
Baby Ruth/O'Henry	Human
Hershey's Kisses	Elk
Tootsie Rolls	Raccoon

