



Literature Elaborate “Lemonadium”: Teacher Guide

Materials and Mixtures Module

Use this guide to facilitate a conversation about the science concepts and literacy skills presented in the Literature Elaborate.

This teacher support document can be completed after participation in the online Literature Elaborate.

Why Literature?

The purpose of the Literature Elaborate is to reinforce overarching science concepts using a variety of literary styles familiar to students. Students’ feelings toward a particular writing style are closely tied to their ability to comprehend the selection. Some students can be “turned off” by the idea of reading science text due to the high complexity of the passages that often contain unfamiliar vocabulary. On the other hand, fiction provides a comfortable setting students are familiar with to introduce science concepts, lessening the anxiety students may feel toward fact-based text. Providing exposure to science concepts through a variety of literary styles will instill a fondness for science that grows as students realize that science does tell a story.

In this activity, students watch a two-minute mixed-media narrative that identifies and discusses a variety of materials and mixtures. Following the story, students sort items based on their properties and identify the materials that the items are made up of.

Making the Connection

Use the following questions to emphasize the scientific connection to this literature activity.

1. What mixture does Simon have for breakfast in the morning?

The mixture that Simon has for breakfast in the morning is made up of crispy flakes, robust raspberries, and refreshing milk.

2. While Simon eats his breakfast, he decides he is going to do what?

After breakfast Simon decides to build a lemonade stand.

3. What does Simon do to the mixture of clothes so that Dad will not have pink underwear again?

He sorts/separates his clothes into two groups - colorful and white.

4. When Simon is finally done with his chores, he gets started on Lemonadium. He has almost all of his materials gathered except one thing. What is that one thing he doesn’t have, and where does he find it?

The one thing Simon does not have is a wooden spoon, and it is in the mixture of the metal utensils.



5. In the jar of mixed coins from one customer, what is the biggest coin that she uses, and how many cups of lemonade is she able to buy?

The biggest coin that is used is a quarter, and she is able to buy five cups.

6. When Simon finishes with Lemonadium, he puts his trash into the proper recycling bins. Which bin does the cardboard sign go in? Which bin do the plastic cups go in?

The cardboard sign goes in the paper bin. The plastic cups go in the plastic bin.

7. When Simon looks at his earnings, he has a mixture of coins and bills and decides to put the money away. How does Simon decide to separate his earnings?

Simon puts jingly money (coins) into his piggy bank and the crinkly money (bills) into his wallet.

8. After dinner, what does Simon do with \$1.00 of his earnings?

After dinner Simon goes to the candy store and buys a big bag of assorted candies.