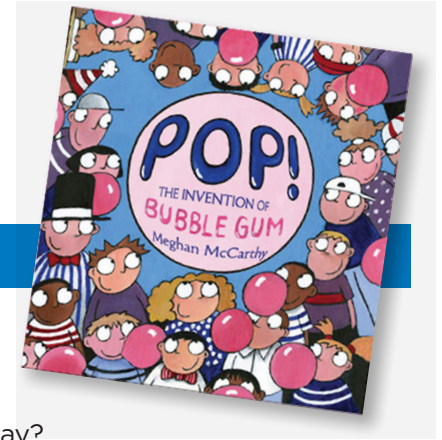


Pop! The Invention of Bubble Gum



A RIF GUIDE FOR COMMUNITY COORDINATORS

Themes: Scientific Method, Trial and Error, Perseverance

Grade Level: K to 2nd grade

Book Brief: The Fler Corporation is trying to create a new kind of gum, but they

aren't having much luck. Can a man who knows nothing about gum save the day?

Author and Illustrator: Meghan McCarthy



TIME TO READ!

Before reading: Ask children what flavors and types of gum they like to chew. What is the difference between chewing gum and bubble gum? Tell them that this book is about the invention of bubble gum and how one man wouldn't give up until he could make it pop!

RELATED ACTIVITIES

BUBBLE TALK (AGES 5-12)

Materials: gum, paper, markers, (uninflated) balloons, glue or tape

Give each child a piece of gum to chew and a blank piece of paper. Have them draw a picture of their head that fills the whole sheet. Attach a small balloon to the mouth on the picture to represent the gum. Ask children to provide descriptive words about the gum they're chewing. Display these words along with their bubble pictures on a wall or bulletin board.

BIG BUBBLE BLOWERS (AGES 6-12)

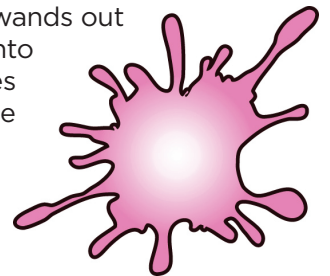
Materials: bubble gum, ruler

Have children work with a partner to measure their bubble blowing. Give each child one piece of bubble gum. Have partners take turns blowing a bubble while the other measures the bubble size. Have children record the data for two bubble blows. As a large group, compare the data and ask the biggest bubble blowers to share their secrets!

BUBBLE ART (AGES 4-12)

Materials: 1/2 cup liquid dish soap, 1 1/2 cups water, 2 tsp. sugar, 2 drops food coloring, plastic containers, pipe cleaners, white paper

Make a different kind of bubble to blow by mixing the soap, water, sugar, and food coloring. Have children shape bubble wands out of pipe cleaners, dip wands into the mixture, and blow bubbles onto white paper. Observe the bubble marks. Did the shape of the wand change the bubble shape? Size?



TECHNOLOGY LINKS

www.youtube.com/watch?v=62HjZ1-LGDo Check out this video of Susan Montgomery Williams, the Guinness World Record holder for bubble blowing.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=WB3st6SQnsk Take a peek at how bubble gum is made.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

OTHER BOOKS BY THIS AUTHOR

Astronaut Handbook (2008), *Seabiscuit the Wonder Horse* (2008), *The Incredible Life of Balto* (2011).

TECHNOLOGY LINK FOR KIDS www.rif.org/kids



Reading Is Fundamental