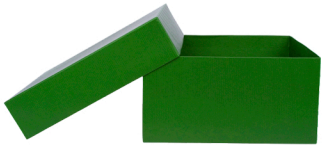
Edible Cell Model Recipe

Materials Needed

1 green box
2 plastic bags (one for each type of cell)
Lemon gelatin
2 large marshmallows
2 short pieces of red licorice
1 toothpick
wire cutters
colored sprinkles
2 mandarin orange slices
1 fruit snack roll
a few jelly beans
a few raisins
1 prune
a few green grapes
a few bing cherries

As you begin putting your cell models together, pay close attention to the ingredients that make up the plant cell model and the ingredients that make up the animal cell model. At the end of the activity, you should have two completed cell models. The two cells will have some ingredients in common, but there are some that will only be found in the plant cell, and others that will only be found in the animal cell.



Use a green box for the plant cell to represent the cell wall. Only plants have cell walls, which are made of cellulose.The cell walls help the plant cells maintain their shape.

Both plant and animal cells have a cell membrane that allows things to come in and out of the cell. Let's represent the cell membrane with a plastic bag. It will line the cell wall for the plant cell. Right now we just have a plastic bag for the animal cell.

Both cells have cytoplasm which is a jelly-like substance that contains the organelles. Let's represent the cytoplasm in our cells with lemon gelatin.

Both cells have a nucleus which is where all the genetic material is stored. The nucleus contains all the information for running the cell. The nucleus is the control center. Although the genetic material in each cell is the same, the body has many different types of cells. Each type of cell is able to perform a different function. These cells are specialized because certain parts of the genetic instructions are "turned off" and others are "turned on." Let's represent the nucleus in each cell with a large marshmallow.

