Candy Cane Science Trifold Experiment and Reflection Activity
Candy Cane Science Experiments

Materials Needed:
Small Candy Canes
Plastic transparent containers (I used some from my science kit)
Measuring cup (1/2 cup)
Water
Baby Oil (Or any kind of oil)

1. Students observe and list properties of candy canes. Use the list of properties to suggest whether the candy cane is a liquid or solid.
2. Put one half cup of cold water in a container. Drop the candy cane into the water for 5 minutes. Use a timer to make sure the time is consistent.
3. After 5 minutes students record and discuss observed changes. Again, consider whether the mixture is a liquid or solid.
4. Repeat process with warm water, and with baby oil.
5. After discussing observed changes with the baby oil, show the video at this link about how candy canes are made: Making of Candy Canes from Science Channel
6. Last, students write conclusions about candy canes, based on what they learned through the experiments and watching the video. Once again, you could discuss if candy canes are a liquid or solid.

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Frames from: Teaching Tidbits and Treats

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What will happen to a candy cane that is immersed in oil for 5 minutes? Write your **hypothesis** here:

________________________

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After submerging the candy cane in oil for 5 minutes, write your **observations** (what you see) here. Write at least 3 properties.

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Now watch the video about how candy canes are made. What can you **conclude** about candy canes from these experiments, and from what you saw in the video?

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**Try these activities at home:** Choose other liquids to try this experiment at home. Each time leave the candy cane in the liquid for 5 minutes, and then write or draw what you observe.

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Leave a candy cane in a half cup of water for three days. What happens to the candy cane and water after three days in an open container?

ASK YOUR PARENTS BEFORE TRYING ANY LIQUIDS!
List **properties** that describe a candy cane. Properties are mostly single word descriptions of how the candy cane feels, looks, tastes, smells, or sounds.

A candy cane is:

____________________  
____________________  
____________________  
____________________  

Draw a picture of it here:

What will happen to a candy cane that is immersed in cold water for 5 minutes?
Write your **hypothesis (prediction)** here:

____________________  
____________________  
____________________  

After submerging the candy cane in cold water for 5 minutes, write your **observations** (what you see) here. Write at least 3 properties.

____________________  
____________________  
____________________  
____________________  

Draw a picture here:

What will happen to a candy cane that is immersed in warm water for 5 minutes?
Write your **hypothesis** here:

____________________  
____________________  
____________________  

After submerging the candy cane in warm water for 5 minutes, write your **observations** (what you see) here. Write at least 3 properties.

____________________  
____________________  
____________________  
____________________  

Draw a picture here: