Science Lessons
by Ms. A

Apple Experiments

Salt on an Apple

Cut an apple in half. Sprinkle a little salt on one half. Wait a little while – about half an hour. Observe. The salted piece will be covered with water. The piece without salt will feel drier. **Fruit has water in it.** Water and salt like to mix. The salt draws the water out of the fruit, and dissolves in the water.

How Much Water is in an Apple?

Put an apple on a piece of tin foil. Weight the apple while on the tinfoil. Record. Dice the apple into small pieces. Lay the pieces on the tinfoil. Put the apple and foil on a paper plate. Lay it in a sunny window. Observe and weigh periodically. Record. When the apple is completely dried out (a week or two), re-weigh with tin-foil. Subtract this weight from the original weight. This will tell you how much water was actually in the apple. Where did the water go?

Save That Apple

Part 1: Slice an apple in half. Place one half inside a small baggie. Squeeze out most of the air and seal. Set the other half on a paper towel so that the cut side is open to the air. Check every thirty minutes for two hours. Observe and discuss. The half open to the air will start to turn brown first and will get much darker. When the apple is exposed to the air (oxygen), the cells in the apple react to the air. The one in the bag had less air so it browned much slower. Part 2: Cut two more fresh pieces from

the apple (with no brown on them). Dip one in lemon or orange juice. Lay them side by side in the open air. You will see that the half with the juice coating stats light. The vitamin C in the juice protects the apple from the air.

How Many Seeds

Have the students predict how many seeds are in an apple? Cut an apple in half horizontally and discover the star. After seeds have been removed and counted the class my use the apples to make "star" prints.