



Festive Candy Density Tower

This experiment uses fruity candy to test an important scientific concept. Be sure to reward scientific inquiry with a few Skittles for yourself!

Supplies:

- 2 bags of Skittles
- Hot water
- 6 clear drinking glasses or jars
- Spoons
- Pipette (optional)



Procedure:

Separate the candies according to color. Line up your glasses, and put the following in each glass:

- Glass 1- 2 red candies
- Glass 2- 4 orange candies
- Glass 3 – 6 yellow candies
- Glass 4 – 8 green candies
- Glass 5 – 10 purple candies



Pour two tablespoons of hot water into each glass and stir until the candy dissolves. The candy should dissolve within about a half-hour, but if you still see big chunks in the water, add one more tablespoon of warm water to each glass.

When the liquid cools, ***CAREFULLY, SLOWLY*** pour the liquid from each glass into the empty glass. Start with purple, and work backwards through the colors above. You may want to use the pipette to help get the liquid into the glass gently. Pouring the colored liquids over the back of a spoon and into the glass can also help the liquid flow more gently into the glass.

What happens to the liquids? Why?

Density is a property that describes the amount of mass ("stuff") in a given volume ("space"). Water with more sugar dissolved into it is more dense than water with less sugar dissolved into it. What effect does density have on liquids seeming to "float" on top of each other?

