

THE MUMMY MAKER



8+ yrs | 15 min setup | Observe 5-7 days | Stage 2-3



Hidden Notebook Found...

How did the ancient Egyptians stop things from rotting without a fridge?

? Wonder & Predict

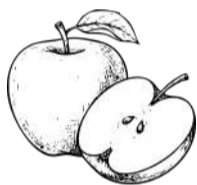
I PREDICT THAT.....

- The salt-covered apple will stay fresher.
- Both apples will change the same way.
- The uncovered apple will last longer.
- Something else: _____

There are no wrong predictions.

WHY DO YOU THINK THAT?

What you will need



- 2 apple slices



- Table salt



- 2 small containers



- Spoon



- Labels



- Camera or phone

Investigate

Follow the steps carefully while observing.

- 1 Label Your Containers**
Label one container: CONTROL and the other: MUMMY

- 2 Add The Apples**
Place one apple slice in each container.

- 3 Make A Mummy**
Completely cover the "MUMMY" apple with salt.

- 4 Which apple do you think will change the most?**
 Control Mummy Both the same

- 5 Observe**
Check both apples each day for 5-7 days.

- 6 Compare**
Look at colour, texture and moisture.

Observe & Record

What did you notice?

- Apple changed colour
- Apple became dry
- Apple became soft
- Apple shrank
- Mould appeared
- Salt-covered apple looked different

What did you observe?

Write or draw what happened to the apple pieces..





What happened?

Fill in the sentences using words from the box.

salt | water | dry | bacteria | mummy | preserved

1. Ancient Egyptians used _____ to help preserve bodies.
2. Salt removes _____ from food.
3. Without water, food becomes more _____.
4. Tiny living things called _____ help cause food to rot.
5. The salt-covered apple acted like a _____.
6. The apple was better _____ because it lost moisture.



The science behind it

Why didn't the apple rot as quickly?

Salt is very good at removing water.

When the apple loses water, it becomes dry.

Tiny living things called bacteria need water to grow and cause food to rot.

When there isn't enough water, they cannot do their job properly.

That is why the salt-covered apple changes differently from the normal apple.

What does this have to do with mummies?

More than 3,000 years ago, ancient Egyptians covered bodies in a special salt called natron.

The salt slowly removed water from the body.

This helped stop decay and allowed mummies to survive for thousands of years.



Take it further - Mystery Extension

Food Challenge

Try apple, banana and pear. Which one becomes the best mummy?

My prediction:

What happened?

Mackey Maybel
Mystery
Investigator



UNLOCK THE CRAZY SCIENTIST LAB™

Go beyond the worksheet and investigate bigger mysteries.



MYSTERY VIDEOS



Could a body really survive for 3,000 years?

Watch a short mystery video and uncover the science behind real mummies.



INVESTIGATION MISSIONS



Crack hidden clues and ancient secrets.

Follow evidence, solve puzzles and think like a real detective.



TEACHER RESOURCES



Ready-to-teach science lessons.

Extension questions, discussion prompts and classroom activities.



BONUS INVESTIGATIONS



Take your experiment further.

Compare different foods, salts and preservation methods like a scientist.



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Great investigations start with great questions.

