

Donut Sort Teacher Instructions

Briefly review what a property is. Hold up one donut and orally list properties that might pertain such as shape, size, color, coating, etc.

Have each person pick a donut and put their name on the baggie in a permanent felt pen. Then have the group lay all the donuts out in front of them and name one property they can use to divide the donuts into two piles. For the sake of clarity make one pile 'that which has the property' and the other one 'that which doesn't'.

Ex. Has holes vs. doesn't have holes. OR Has jelly vs. doesn't have jelly.

Allow students to work on creating a dichotomous key to identify their donuts. As soon as they've gone as far as necessary to identify an individual donut, then name whose it is. Continue until all donuts have their own individual category. Learners must name all the characteristics to "key out" their donut before they can move on.

Sample Donut Key:

1a - not round

1b - round

2a - not round, twisted

2b - not round, not twisted

3a - round, no hole

3b - round, hole

4a - round, hole, choc. iced

4b - round, hole, not choc. iced

5a - round, hole, choc. iced, ruffled

5b - round, hole, choc. iced, not ruffled