

Expanding...

Explore More ...

-Are there any foods you or your partner eat that make your jaw tired?

-Test your other hinge joints - can the joints twist or do they only bend and straighten?

Student Name:_____

Teacher's Name:_____

Due Date:_____

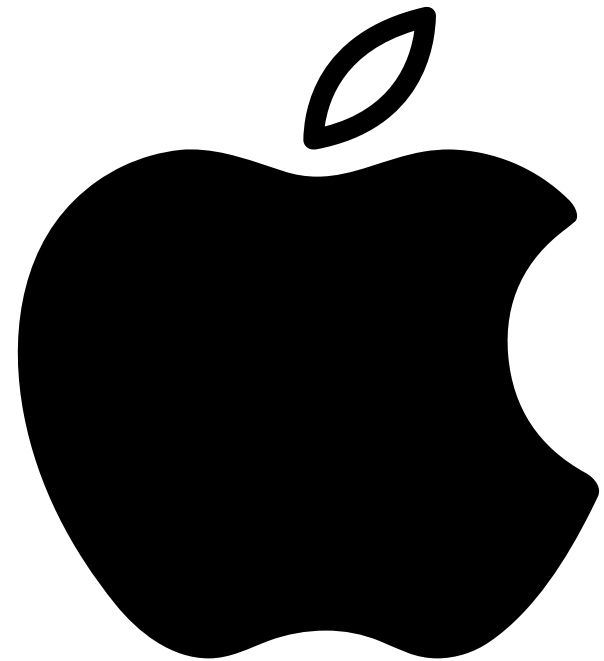
Partner's Name:_____



The Science Alliance of Tennessee, a coalition of 6 Science and Children's Museums, aims to foster children's curiosity, wonder and problem-solving skills using STEM curricula and community connections that set students on a positive trajectory of learning where they live and play. This project, the Tennessee Rural Impact Project (TRIP), was made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Let's Explore

How We Chew



Exploring...

Let's Explore ...

the way joints move to help us chew!

How does it work?

What do fingers, knees, elbows, toes, and your jaw all have in common?

They are all hinge joints. The hinge joint allows only bending and straightening movements. Your lower jaw moves back and forth in only one direction like a door on a hinge.

Find a partner to learn more about how your jaw joint works.

What to do

Without moving your mouth, think about how you chew. Predict how your jaw moves. Circle your predictions.

-The upper jaw moves

-The lower jaw moves

-Both jaws move

Now test your prediction!

1) Put a finger on your partner's upper lip. Ask your partner to pretend to chew. Does your finger move?

2) Now put a finger on your partner's bottom lip. Ask your partner to chew again. Does your finger move when they chew?

Is this what you predicted? Switch roles to see whether your jaws work in the same way.