

About You

Your Name: Vicki L Hansen

Your Institution: UMD (University of Minnesota Duluth)

Your E-mail Address: vhansen@d.umn.edu

Activity/Assignment Title: **Play with your Food**

Type of Activity: simply activities to use during lecture or lab to help students understand rheology.

Brief description: Short demonstrations involving food, rubber bands, rubber balls and other goodies show students that they know a lot more about rheology—that strange word that they have never heard that is the key to structure—than they think! These demos, which can be used across the curriculum, help students look to their own experiences for understanding (and they provide highlights to refer to again and again and again).

Context: These very short demos can be used across the curriculum to help students assimilate concepts of rheology

Briefly describe or list the skills and concepts that students must have mastered before beginning the activity: I have used these in Intro classes as well as structural geology courses.

Briefly describe how the activity is situated in your course:

I have used these in Introductory courses as well as Structural Geology courses.

Goals of the Activity or Assignment:

To help your colleagues understand the role of this activity or assignment in your course, please provide a statement of the goals that you have for students in the following three areas:

- **Content or concepts**
 - Rheology
- **Higher order thinking skills**
 - Rheology—how materials respond (strain) to stress (applied force) can be a difficult concept because so many variable come into play; but if students can related rheology to every day life (eating!) they realize that they actually understand many of these concepts already, or they can make predictions about rheology, and test those predictions by playing with their food.
- **Other skills**
 - Above are enough really.

Briefly describe the content/concepts goals for this activity:

To get students to think about rheology and structural relations every day through their normal activities.

Briefly describe the higher order thinking skills goals for this activity:

Ditto to above

Briefly describe any other skills goals for this activity:

Enough.

Description

We'll demo some fun play with your food rheology activities, as well as rubber bands and other things you aren't normally allowed to bring to class. I am sure that many folks have many more super (or is it supper?) ideas!

Evaluation

No evaluation for this one.