

REAL SCIENCE:

RED JELLYBEANS DISCUSSION NOTES

The following are some ideas brought up during my in-class discussion during our introduction to CER. With regards to evidence, I had students think about experimental evidence that could be collected that would support the claim. With regards to reasoning, I asked students to explain why the evidence is true.

CLAIM

"Red Jellybeans are the best ones!"

EVIDENCE

- We could give a survey seeing what colour jellybean people prefer. If the survey showed that more people liked red jellybeans, this would support our claim.
- We could ask jellybean companies for their annual sales numbers. If the numbers showed that the colour purchased most is red, this would support our claim.

REASONING

- people may prefer red more than other colours because it represents love.
- people may prefer the taste of red jellybeans (ie. strawberry, watermelon) and, therefore, most red jellybeans are purchased. This is assuming red jellybeans are flavored (some jellybean brands are not flavored)
- red may stand out to the human eye more than other colours. Thus, more red jellybeans would be eaten since they are the first to be seen.
- more red jellybeans are purchased yearly because of holidays that use red (ie. Valentine's day, Christmas)
- The popularity of red is due to marketing. For example, the Smarties jingle ("when you eat your Smarties do you eat the red ones last" - signifying the red ones are the best) and the M&Ms mascots (a red, round cartoon M&M who talks)