

If you have the resources whānau could help you develop your observation and classifying skills with the following activity. Remember ... I look, I see, I wonder

Sweet classification

You have a bowl of sweets which need to be sorted and classified (try not to cause any extinctions by eating the specimens!). ***If you don't have a bowl of sweets you could draw them.***

You will need to sort the sweets according to clear characteristics that can split the specimens into two new groups.

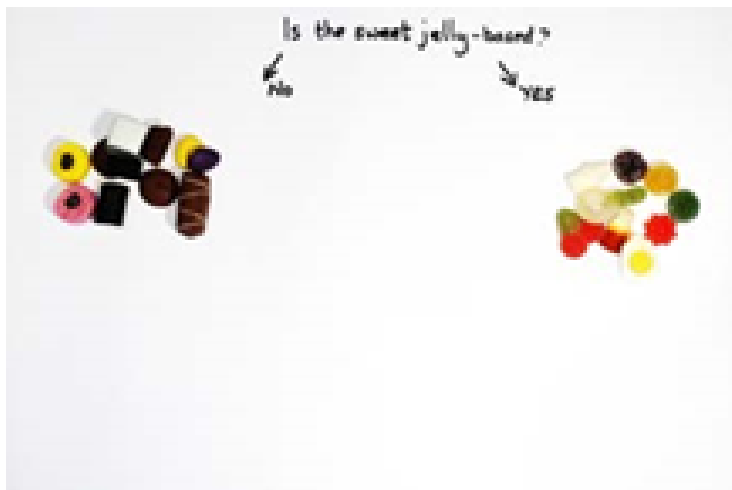
Think of some questions that may help you to sort and split the sweets.

Make your questions interesting and ensure that they always need a 'yes'/'no' answer, for example, 'Is the sweet a primary colour?'

Some questions that may help them to sort and split the sweets. Think about the following characteristics or features:

- *Main ingredient – Is the sweet jelly based?*
- *Structure – Is the sweet of one solid form (no layers or shells)?*
- *Shape – Is the shape regular or irregular?*
- *Size – Is the sweet larger than 1cm?*
- *Colour – Is the sweet a primary colour?*

Use your large sheet of paper to organise your sweets and to record your classification system a bit like this:



As you sort your sweets add in 'branches' that are labelled to show each feature and put a question in where the sweets have just been (e.g. your question might be, 'Is the sweet jelly based?' with a 'yes' and 'no' branch off).

Once your sweets have been fully sorted your sheet should look something like this:



Now see if you can come up with some common names for each 'species' using words that relate to the features used to classify to that point, (challenge: you could try to create scientific names by making them sound Latin, e.g. *Chocolus shellus*).