

# Shrinky Dinks

**Age Group:** K-8

**Child/Adult Ratio:** 6 to 1

**Take Away Artifact:** Yes

**Approximate Time:** 30 mins

**Divisions Covered:** All

**Questions to ask:**

Why does a shrinky dink shrink?

**Precautions:**

Heat gun is HOT. Use caution.

## Materials:

Shrinky Dink Plastic or #6 plastic

## Skills Required for Completion of Task:

### Motor skills

- Bilateral upper extremity coordination
- Ability to manipulate small objects
- Hand-eye coordination
- Ability to grip objects
- Ability to stabilize objects/tasks

### Process/Cognitive skills

- Ability to attend to a task for greater than 5 minutes
- Follow multi-step directions
- Ability to sequence steps
- Ability to understand safety precaution
- Ability to organize or keep materials organized for a task
- Ability to adjust to different workspace requirements

### Social skills

- Ability to communicate and share equipment with peers/staff appropriately

## K-8 Standards:

**5.NF.B.5** Interpret multiplication as scaling (resizing).

## Simple Science:

When #6 (polystyrene) plastic is created, it is heated, flattened, and cooled quickly so that the molecules are “frozen” far apart. When the plastic is quickly heated it shrinks back to having the molecules close together. Shrinky Dinks can shrink down to 20% of their original size. (A 5-foot-tall person would shrink to a 1-foot-tall person)

## This activity would be appropriate completed by the following disciplines:

Occupational therapy, LCSW, Family Services, Industrial Arts

# STEAM Lessons

## Shrinky Dinks



### Instructions:

Choose a template and color or create your own design and color on the Shrinky Dink plastic. Cut out your image. Using the heat gun, shrink your design to 20% of its original size. If you wish to create a necklace or bracelet, punch a hole in your design before shrinking.

THE 7 TYPES OF PLASTICS <i>and how recyclable they are</i>						
SYMBOL						
						
<b>PET</b> Polyethylene Terephthalate	<b>HDPE</b> High-Density Polyethylene	<b>PVC</b> Polyvinyl Chloride	<b>LDPE</b> Low-Density Polyethylene	<b>PP</b> Polypropylene	<b>PS</b> Polystyrene	<b>PC</b> Other
RECYCLABILITY (Check Locally)						
Commonly Recyclable	Sometimes Recyclable	Not Often Recyclable	Sometimes Recyclable	Sometimes Recyclable	Rarely Recyclable	Rarely Recyclable
EXAMPLES						
 	 	 	 	 	 	 

STEAM Lessons

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## Design Ideas:

