

Secret Sundae



VIRTUAL
Field Trip

to the California Science Center



Focus

Question:

What affects how information moves from one place to another?

Buzzword:

Code



THE SITUATION

You and your friend are inventing a top secret recipe for ice cream sundaes. Find a way to communicate with your friend across the room without anyone else finding out your top secret recipe!

What challenges will you have when you try to communicate secretly across the room?

HYPOTHESIS

I think some challenges we will face are...

EXPERIMENT: PART 1



Materials:

- Partner
- Paper
- Pencil
- Colored pencils or markers
- Optional: tool to make light, tool to make sound, tool to create symbols.

You need to develop a method to communicate with your partner in secret. In part 2, you will use your method to build a sundae together in secret.

Criteria and Constraints:

- You will be 5 feet away from your partner at all times.
- Other people may be able to see and hear you, but they shouldn't know what you are saying.
- You will need to communicate choice of: flavor, number of scoops, cup or cone, and toppings.



WHAT'S GOING ON?

1. Circle which type(s) of communication is/are most similar to the one you designed.

Audio

Visual

Written Text

2. Why did you decide to communicate that way?

Symbols and patterns can be useful tools for communicating in secret!



Remember to use your secret language to communicate each choice to your partner.



EXPERIMENT: PART 2

Test your method of communication by trying to draw the same ice cream sundae based on each other's decisions.

1. Decide who is partner 1 and who is partner 2.
2. Alternate making choices for your sundae as instructed on the Sundae Menu on page 4. Use the space below to draw each choice.
3. After choice 4, compare your drawing with your partner's to see if you were able to communicate accurately.

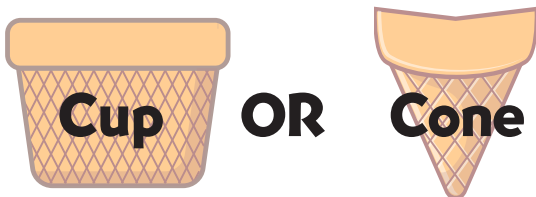
Draw your ice cream sundae here:

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for drawing an ice cream sundae.

Sundae Menu

Step 1: Partner A

Choose from the options below and communicate your choice to Partner B.



Now BOTH partners draw the choice!

Step 2: Partner B

Choose from the options below and communicate your choice to Partner A.



Now BOTH partners draw the choice!

Step 3: Partner A

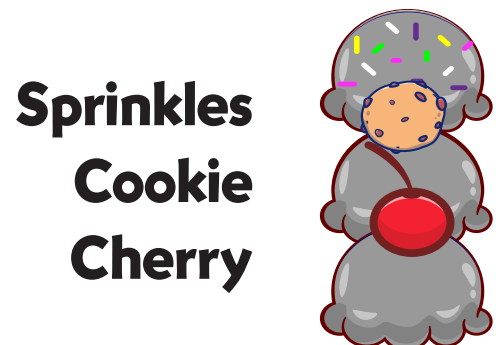
Choose from the options below and communicate your choice to Partner B.



Now BOTH partners draw the choice!

Step 4: Partner B

Choose from the options below and communicate your choice to Partner A.



Now BOTH partners draw the choice!



WHAT'S GOING ON?



1. What challenges did you face when you tried to communicate with your partner using the method you designed?
2. Was the method you designed the best solution for your situation? Why or why not?
3. If you were to try this again, what would you change about your method?