**Chocolate Chip Excavation**

**Materials:**

* Chocolate Chip Cookies (one per student)
* Popsicle sticks
* Toothpicks
* Toothbrushes
* Paper plates
* I’m a Paleontologist! Recording sheet (below)

**Procedure:**

* Review the job of a paleontologist.
* Explain to the students that they will be paleontologists today and that their “dig site” will be a chocolate chip cookie. Students will be searching for fossils (chocolate chips) in their dig sites.
* Demonstrate how to use the various “tools” (popsicle sticks, tooth picks, toothbrushes) to excavate the chocolate chips from the cookie.
* Remind students that they need to be very careful not to break their fossils (chocolate chips) as they work.
* Have each child place a chocolate chip cookie on a paper plate and complete the first part of the I’m A Paleontologist recording sheet before beginning the dig.
* After students have excavated all of the chocolate chips from their cookie they should complete the rest of the I’m A Paleontologist recording sheet.
* After all students have finished, regroup to share results.
* As an extension activity the number of “fossils” found can be graphed and compare

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**I’m a paleontologist!**

Today I took part in a paleontological dig of a chocolate chip cookie. This is what the dig site looked like before I began.

As a result of my excavation I found: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ chocolate chips

The tools I used were:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_