

NAME _____

SECTION _____

PARTNER(S) _____

DATE _____

OBSERVING AND DESCRIBING MATTER

Assemble into 4-person groups. Introduce yourself to everyone in the group. Designate one person as the Recorder. The Recorder will write down answers and keep track of time while participating in the activity. Designate another person as Equipment Manager. The Equipment Manager will get the container of materials and make sure it is returned in proper order at the end of the activity.

Obtain the activity box and begin Task 1.

Task 1.

List as many specific, descriptive words (or very short phrases) about the objects in the box as you can. Use all of your senses except taste. The Recorder for group writes the list and watches time while contributing descriptions. **Stop after 10 minutes.**

Task 2

Quickly look at the list of the group next to you and see if there is anything you want to add to your list that you might have missed. (Take only two minutes)

Examine your final descriptions list and write *general words* for categories of the descriptions (i.e. red, blue, white are all in the category of color). **Stop after 10 minutes.**

Task 3

Divide your categories (from Task 2) into two groups. In the first group place all those categories that would remain the same if the objects were to suddenly double in size (all dimensions double). In the second group list those categories that would change.

Question 1. Which of the objects in the box could be manipulated by hammering it? Why?

Question 2. Which of the objects would be most affected by putting it in water? Why?

Question 3. Which of the groups from Task 3 would be most useful if you were trying to identify the objects?

