

# Marshmallow Atoms

**Purpose:** Students will identify and describe parts of an atom.

**TEKS:** 8.5A,B

## Directions:

1. Presort marshmallows into 3 large baggies
  - a. Large pink marshmallows represent protons
  - b. Large white marshmallows represent neutrons
  - c. Mini marshmallows represent electrons
2. On a large piece of paper or poster board draw the outline of an atom; nucleus and electron orbitals. Laminate them so that the marshmallows won't stick to the paper after repeated use.
3. Give each group an atom outline and enough of each type of marshmallow to make the largest element you wish them to construct.
4. Explain to the students what each color of marshmallow represents.
5. Give the groups different elements to make on their boards out of the marshmallows. When finished each group should sketch their atom and label it in their journal.
  - a. You may wish to have all groups complete the same element each time to make it easier to spot check as you walk around the room.
6. Repeat with various different elements until students can complete the task easily.

