

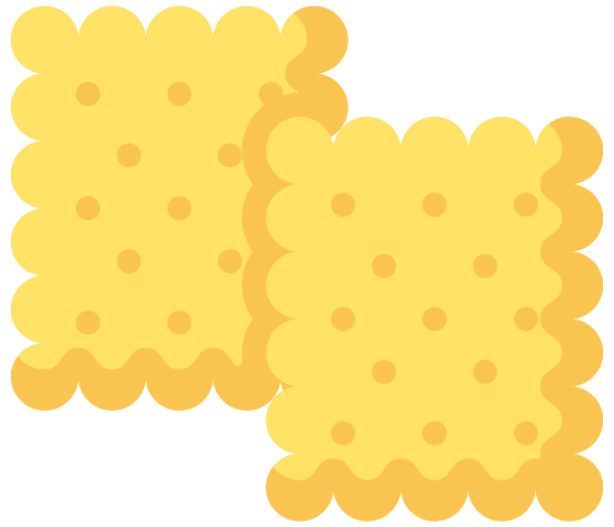
Biology Bricks Activity

Crackers & Amylase

This simple experiment shows using just a cracker or crisp how enzymes work by placing them on your tongue.

You will need:

- *One half of an unsalted cracker (or crisps – Pom Bear are a good substitute for this)*
- *Small cup of water*



Instructions

1. Ideally do this before you eat. Remove any chewing gum or debris from your mouth, and swallow the cup of water.
2. Place the cracker or crisp on your tongue and leave there for a minute or two.
3. Note any changes of taste you experience during the experiment.

Extension

Place some corn-starch and a little water into a test tube, and add a few drops of iodine to the solution. The iodine turns purple when exposed to a starch. Try the same with some of your saliva, mix it with the starch, and then add the iodine, to see what happens.

Allow a few minutes for the experiment to finish.