Workshop Model Lesson Plan for Middle School Science SEPs

Topic: Thermal Energy Grade-Level: 6

Mini-Lesson 10-15min	Teacher introduces the day's topic with a question. The question should be relevant, thought-provoking, and open-ended. *Students may be required to write the question and some of the responses Question for the day: If is possible to determine the temperature of a cup of water by looking at it?
Independent Work	Students are assigned a task to work on alone. During this time the teacher moves about the room to assist students, as needed. Describe the task. Students will be given the graph to first
10-20min	write down 5 things they notice, then 3 questions that could be answered from the
Which will occur first? 2nd	info in the graph. They will then write a few sentences to summarize the trend shown in the graph.
	Students, in groups of no more than 4, are given actual materials to study a given topic.
Small Group Work	Describe the group task. Materials Needed: Measure 150mL of hot water into a cup. Measure 150mL of cold
10-20min	water into a cup. Measure the temperature of each cup of water. Add 1-drop of food color to each cup. Observe. Draw a sketch of
1s†	what happens in the first 20sec of adding the food color. Write why you think this happened.
Sharing 5-10min	Teacher guides whole class to share what they learned based on minilesson discussion, independent work, and small group work. Teacher clears up any misconceptions from the day. How will the day be concluded? What did you learn about thermal energy? How did the thermal energy in each cup differ? How was it evidenced by its reaction with the dye?