



# **Classroom Activities Manual**

Pharmacy Learning Stations

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Medicine is NOT Candy

# Pharmacy Learning Stations

**Objective:** Give students a hands-on experience that allows students to see what pharmacists do. The three activity stations are meant to demonstrate different fields of pharmacy. Specialty medicines can be made by **compounding pharmacists** through the use of the mortar and pestle. **Hospital pharmacists** work with doctors in the hospital to care for patients. The stethoscope is used by hospital pharmacists. **Community pharmacists** work at independent and community pharmacies and use pill counters to count the exact number of pills an individual patient needs. The pills are placed in a vial and are labeled with the patient's specific information and include instructions on how to take the medicine.

**Materials:**

- Mortar and Pestle
- Stethoscope
- Pill Counting Tray and Beads to count

**Instructions:** Break the class into three groups. Assign a *Katy's Kids* presenter or teacher to each group. Each leader will teach their group of students using one of the three *Pharmacy Learning Station* materials and accompanying script from this document.

# Mortar and Pestle

Has anyone ever seen one of these before? What do you do with this?

*Hold up Mortar- "This is the mortar." Hold up Pestle- "This is the Pestle."* This mortar and pestle is used in pharmacies to make medicines. The pharmacist uses this pestle to crush medicines into smaller pieces.

Pharmacists can use the mortar and pestle to make medicines smaller and place the smaller medicine in a liquid so that patients do not have to swallow large medicine tablets. Medicines may also be mixed together in the mortar to make a new medicine. *Demonstrate mixing.*

Pass the Mortar and Pestle around to each member of the group and let the students practice mixing with the mortar and pestle.



# Stethoscope

This is a stethoscope. Can you say stethoscope-  
*Stethoscope*. Who has seen one of these before? Where  
did you see it? What does it do?

Great answers! Some pharmacists work with doctors in  
hospitals. Pharmacists use stethoscopes to listen to their  
patients' heart beat. Pharmacists listen to patients'  
hearts to make sure they are healthy.

Pass stethoscope around to students in the group. Let  
them play and experiment with the stethoscope.



# Pill Counting Tray

Can anyone guess what this is?

This is a pill counting tray. Pharmacists use this to count out just the right number of medicines a patient needs. The pharmacist pours pills onto this large surface and then counts by fives to put the right number of pills in a smaller bottle.

Will you count to five with me? 1-2-3-4-5

Great job!

Use beads to demonstrate how they are counted in the counting tray. Pass the materials around to the group members to allow each student to count the beads on the tray.



# Medicine is NOT Candy

**Objective:** Teach children the difference between medicine and candy.

**Materials:**

- Two Sandwich Bags
  - One filled with a few Red Hot Candies<sub>(tm)</sub>
  - One filled with a few Sudafed<sub>(tm)</sub>

**Instructions:** Hold up a bag of the Red Hots<sub>(tm)</sub> in one hand and the Sudafed<sub>(tm)</sub> tablets in the other. Ask students which bag holds the candy and which one is the medicine.

**Presenter:** Some medicines look like candy but they are NOT candy. You can eat more than one piece of candy. You and your parents or an adult you know have to follow the directions on how to take medicines very carefully. Medicines can be dangerous if not taken correctly.

**Discussion Questions:**

**Some medicines taste like candy. Does this mean that the medicine is candy?**

*No*

**Why do you take medicine?**

*To make you feel better or to keep you well*

**What can happen if you take too much of a medicine or if you take the medicine the wrong way?**

*The medicine can hurt you*

**What did you learn from this game?**

*Medicine is NOT candy*