#### Activity 1 Make a magnifier (lens)

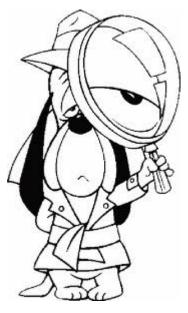
- A microscope works by bending light.
  - Have you ever noticed how things appear to be magnified when you look at them through a glass of water or juice?
  - Try using the dropper to drop a big drop of water into the centre of the plastic dish. Try to keep the droplet together so that it has a curved surface-not spread out
  - Now lift it carefully and look at some printed newspaper through it-does it look bigger?
  - The light has been bent by the curve on the drop of water. You have made your own magnifier!



This is how a microscope bends light to magnify things. This is how a microscope bends light to magnify things. This is how a microscope bends light to magnify things. This is how a microscope bends light to magnify things. This is how a microscope bends light to magnify things. This is how a microscope bends light to



- This is how a microscope works by allowing you to see little things more clearly. The lens makes them look bigger to allow us to see them.
- The lenses look like what you see in a magnifying glass but when you put two together you get a much bigger magnification





#### Activity 2 How much can I see?

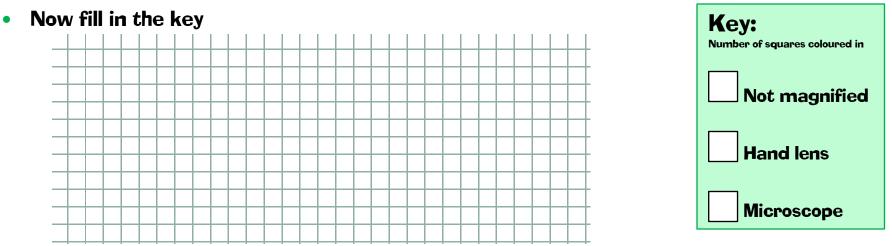
- Have a look at some printed newspaper or a ruler or your own fingers. Things look bigger but you see less area. The area you see is called the field of view.
- Have a look at a 2p. Draw around the area you can see here:





### Activity 2 How much bigger is it?

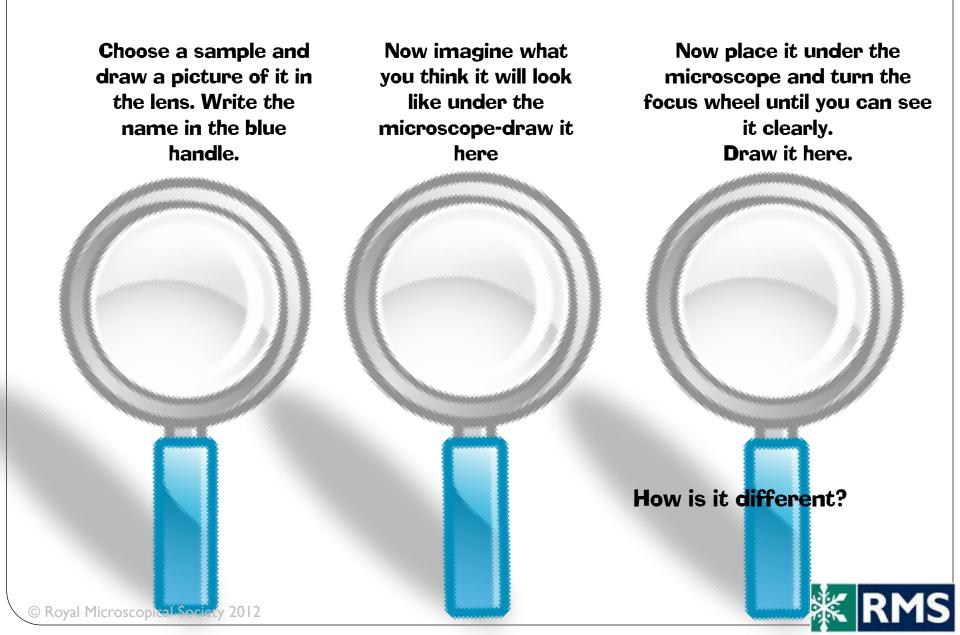
- How many times bigger will an object appear in the microscope? Let's work it out
- Lay the hand lens on top of the graph paper and count how many squares you can see within it's borders. Colour that number of squares in on the graph paper and label it 'not magnified'
- Now lift up the hand lens slowly-you will see the squares seem bigger as they are magnified! As the paper comes into focus count how many squares you can see now. Colour these in on the graph paper and label it 'hand lens'
- Now place the graph paper under the microscope. How many squares can you see? Colour them in and label it 'microscope'



- You can now work out the magnification of the microscope. To do this find out how many times the number of squares coloured in for the 'microscope' go into the number of squares coloured in for 'not magnified'.
- Can you work out the magnification of the hand lens too?



#### Activity 3 What details can I see?



#### Activity 4: What details can I see?

- Make your own slides by using the card ones supplied in the activity kit.
- Look around the classroom (window-ledges are good for insects!) or in the playground for leaves, pebbles and twigs and anything else you can find
- Use the Pritt-stick to stick them onto the card slides. Use the dark side for pale things and the pale side for dark.
  - If you have a pond try dipping for creatures.
- ? Put some pond water in the petri dish and see what you can spot!

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# Activity 4: Suggested everyday objects a to look at



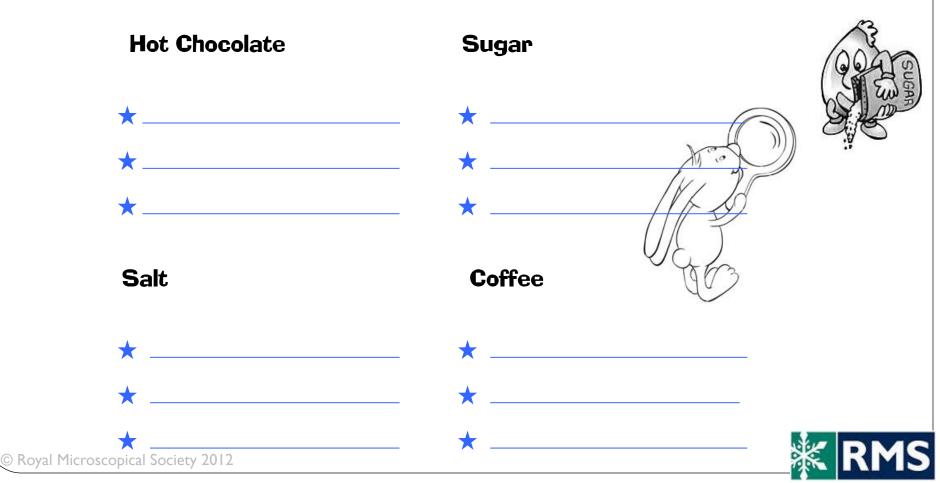
- Baking: sugar (try using different types), flour, oats, biscuit crumbs, chocolate drops etc. Prepare them by either placing in the empty petri dishes provided and sellotaping them shut or by placing a drop of nail polish on a plastic slide and sprinkling same sample on it and allowing to dry
- Materials: Rocks and sand, different types of paper, different types of wool/string/material
- Parts of plants (roots, leaves, petals and other flower parts, seeds (poppy seeds are especially pretty)
- Minibeasts found outside or often there will be dead ones on the windowsill!
- Kitchen items: Coffee, teabags and their contents, chocolate powder, herbs etc
- Pond water (aquatic shops have really good and cheap samples)
- Electronics

Other items that the children collect



#### Activity 5 dissolving and reforming crystals

 Have a look at some sugar, salt, coffee granules and hot chocolate powder under the microscope.
Write 3 words to describe each sample.



#### Activity 5 dissolving and reforming crystals

- Now dissolve each sample in some warm water and stir. Look again-the crystals are losing their shape. If you
  have used warm water and stirred well you may see that they have all dissolved. You might add a drop of food colouring to help you see.
- Next day look again-the water has evaporatedcan you see the salt and sugar?
- What about the coffee and chocolate?



### **Activity 6 Super-sleuth**

- Help! Someone has broken into the sweet factory and stolen all the Jelly Babies.
- The R.M.S. needs YOU to help us catch the thief.
- We found several clues at the scene of the crime: a piece of newspaper, a piece of tissue (ugh!) and part of a fingerprint.
- There are 4 suspects: Barry, Becca, Bella and Barney.
- Look at the information we have gathered on the suspects and then look carefully at the clues to work out who the thief is. Good Luck!











This is Barney. He works in a doughnut factory, packing the delicious sugary doughnuts into boxes. He enjoys reading the Daily News and he has a packet of 'Happy Nose' tissues in his pocket.

This is Bella. She works in a restaurant, using lots of herbs and spices in her cooking. She enjoys reading the Daily News and she has a packet of 'Atchoo!' tissues in her pocket.

This is Barry. He works a lifeguard at the beach, enjoying the sand and the waves. He enjoys reading the Happy Times and he has a packet of 'Happy Nose' tissues in his pocket. This is Becca. She works in a windmill, making flour and delivering it to the factories. She enjoys reading the Happy Times and she has a packet of 'Atchoo!' tissues in her pocket.

## Activity 6 Super-sleuth

- Look carefully at the newspaper, tissue and fingerprint samples. Can you match the clues found at the scene to the labelled tissue and newspaper samples? Discuss and describe why you think they match.
- Can you see similar patterns to the suspects fingerprints in the fingerprint clues? Give your reasons why you think they match.
- Use the table to work out who might be the thief. Put a tick ( $\sqrt{}$ ) in the boxes that match the clues

	Barney	Bella	Barry	Becca
Tissue				
Newspaper				
Fingerprint				
Total				

 Who do you think it could be? Why? Who do you think it could NOT be? Why?
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- So, we still have some suspects.
- Luckily there was one more clue. A jelly baby was found at the scene. Examine it closely under the microscope.. What can you see embedded in the sweet? Who might use this in their job? Match your findings to the reference samples and the information you have about the suspects to work out who the thief is.

I think the thief is \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_







Barney







