

1077-O1-897 **Penelope H Dunham*** (pdunham@muhlenberg.edu), Muhlenberg College, Dept. of Math & CS,
2400 W. Chew St., Allentown, PA 18104. *Food for (Mathematical) Thought.*

What are carrots, candy bars, Pringles, and goldfish crackers doing in a math class? They are providing concrete models of mathematical concepts and enabling students to explore those concepts with hands-on activities. Using food to capture students' interest, while motivating discoveries, is a time-honored tradition in my courses. In this talk, I'll describe some of my most successful applications of food-for-thought to explorations and projects in precalculus, calculus, statistics, and even proof-writing. Topics include strong induction, exponential decay, saddle points, conics, solids of revolution, capture/recapture, and chi-squared analysis. (Received September 14, 2011)