STEM in Food Science in Technology and Living

Starches in Food

- Takes place under moist heat
- Starch granule swells, becomes soft and digestible
- Loss of amylose from the swelling granule
- Gelatinisation temperature depends on the type of starch
- Produces a thick cooked paste or fluffy mesh in cooked starchy vegetables
- Occurs during the cooking of sauce, porridge, pasta, pudding, steamed rice, baked potatoes etc.
- Can be applied to:
 - thicken sauces
 - set puddings and cold sweets
 - improve textural quality of food products such as viscosity, gumminess, smoothness etc.
 - disperse or suspend ingredients within a mixture, such as drinks, soup, salad dressing etc.

• Amylose molecule

• Amylopectin molecule



- Swelling and disorganisation of starch granules when heated with the presence of water
- Measures of gelatinisation
 - swelling of granules
 - increased viscosity (thickness or stickiness)
 - increased translucency
 - increased solubility

- Factors affecting gelatinisation
 - ratio of amylose to amylopectin
 - amount of water
 - heating time
 - presence of other substances

Related Food Tests

Food Test Number	Food Test
Food Test 1	Making of blueberry sauce
Food Test 2	Observe gelatinisation of starch by adding hot water

Related Teaching Materials

File	Teaching Materials
Time Plan for Gelatinisation of Starch	 Principles for Writing Time Plan for Conducting Food Tests Sample Time Plan: Gelatinisation of Starch