Potato chips, soda, candy and frozen pizza. Your students’ four food groups or their next science lesson?

Students learn about the many functions of food packaging, besides protecting foods, and how food packaging materials affect the environment. Then they design their own environmentally friendly package for delivering a hot baked potato.

By incorporating everyday materials into science lessons, the Materials World Modules (MWM) program at Northwestern University has found the solution to getting students excited about learning science while helping teachers meet national and state education standards.

The modules are easy to organize and inexpensive to run. They can be incorporated into any science class because of the breadth of subjects covered in the Activity and Design Project sections. Each module is a supplemental science unit that takes 1-3 weeks of class time (approximately 10 hours) to complete.

### Module At-a-Glance:

#### Activities
- Investigating Food Packaging
- Analyzing Food Packaging Materials
- Evaluating the Impact on the Environment
- Researching Materials
- Designing a Protective Package
- Comparing the Insulating Properties

#### Design Project
- Designing a Hot Potato Package
- Designing New Food Packaging

MWM will give students an opportunity to understand the world around them in a way they have never experienced before. The modules promote an awareness of the roles science and technology play in society and guide students to take increased control of their work.