

Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

Activity: Please Pass the Bread

Problem: What factors are necessary for bread molds to grow?

Materials: For each group of 4:

- 1) 2 paper plates
- 2) 1 Plastic dropper (pipet will work as well)
- 3) 2 slices of bread (preferable without preservatives)
- 4) 2 sealable plastic bags (pint to quart size, easily fit bread slice)
- 5) 1 plastic cup (to be filled with water)
- 6) Packing tape
- 7) sharpie (to label bags)
- 8) 4 Pairs of safety goggles

Procedure:

- 1) Students will follow these directions for conducting the preparation of the bread samples.
 - a) Place 1 slice of bread on each plate.
 - b) Add drops of water to one slice until the whole slice is moist, but not over-saturated.
 - c) We will keep the slices exposed to air for 20 minutes
 - d) We will then slide each slice (without putting the plate in the bag) into a plastic bag and seal it. We will also seal it with packing tape to ensure it stays sealed.
 - e) We will then label each bag with the names of the group members and period
 - f) Bags will be placed in a cabinet to be removed from light, except during daily observations.
- 2) Once preparation is complete, students will cleanup, return all materials to the science counter, and return to their normal seats.
- 3) Students will record mold growth for the next 7 school days.
- 4) Students will answers analyze and conclude questions on activity sheet to turn in with their data tables.

Data Table

Day	Day of Week	Moistened Bread Slice		Unmoistened Bread Slice	
		Mold Present (Y/N)	Area with Mold (%)	Mold Present (Y/N)	Area with Mold (%)
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					

Analyze and Conclude – Answer in complete sentences on a separate sheet of paper

- 1) What conclusions can you draw from each of your experiments?
- 2) What was the variable in the first experiment? The second experiment?
- 3) What basic needs of living things were demonstrated in this lab? Explain?
- 4) What is meant by “controlling variables”? Why it is necessary to control variables in an experiment?