

Name: _____

Date: _____

GROWING MOLD ON BREAD

UNDER DIFFERENT CONDITIONS



Mold is a type of fungus. It grows best in certain conditions.
In this experiment, you will test how different conditions affect mold growth on bread.



MATERIALS

- 4 slices of bread
- 4 resealable plastic bags (sandwich size)
- Sticky notes or labels
- Water
- Paper towel
- Refrigerator (optional)
- Warm place (e.g., on top of fridge or in a cupboard)



VARIABLES

- **Independent Variable** (what you change):
The conditions (temperature and moisture)
- **Dependent Variable** (what you measure):
The amount of mold growth on the bread
- **Controlled Variables** (what you keep the same):
Type of bread, size of slices, type of bags, length of time



PROCEDURE

1. Label each bag with a condition:
A – Warm & Dry
B – Warm & Moist
C – Cold (Refrigerator)
D – Dry with Desiccant (very dry)
2. Place one slice of bread in each bag.
3. For **Bag B (Warm & Moist)**: Dampen a paper towel with water and place it in the bag. Do not let the bread touch the water.
4. For **Bag D (Dry with Desiccant)**: Add a few dry rice grains or a silica gel packet (if available) to help keep the bag dry.
5. Seal all bags.
6. Place the bags in their conditions:
 - A – Leave on the counter (room temperature) in a dry area.
 - B – Leave on the counter (room temperature) with the damp paper towel.
 - C – Place in the refrigerator.
 - D – Leave on the counter with the desiccant.
7. Observe the bread every day for 7 days. Record your observations in the table below.



OBSERVATIONS

Record your observations each day. Describe the mold (color, size, amount, location).

Day	A – Warm & Dry	B – Warm & Moist	C – Cold (Refrigerator)	D – Dry with Desiccant
Day 1				
Day 2				
Day 3				
Day 4				
Day 5				
Day 6				
Day 7				



ANALYSIS & CONCLUSION

1. In which condition did the most mold grow? _____
2. In which condition did the least mold grow? _____
3. What does this experiment show about the conditions mold needs to grow? _____

4. If you wanted to keep bread from molding, what conditions would you choose? Why? _____

5. What could you test next? _____