



HOMESCHOOL SCIENCE EXPERIMENT

OBSERVING SNAILS AND THEIR RESPONSES TO DIFFERENT STIMULI

Name: _____

Date: _____

Scientist: _____

Snails can detect changes in their environment and respond in different ways.
In this experiment, you will observe how a snail reacts to different stimuli.

? QUESTION

How do snails respond to different stimuli?

💡 HYPOTHESIS

I think the snail will _____

(Predict what you think will happen.)

🧪 MATERIALS

- 1–3 live snails
- Shallow plastic tray or container
- Paper towel (damp)
- Dropper or spray bottle (water)
- Lemon juice or vinegar
- Salt
- Soft brush or cotton swab
- Leafy vegetable or lettuce
- Timer or clock
- Notebook or lab sheet (this page)

📋 PROCEDURE

1. Place a damp paper towel in the tray and put the snail in the center. Allow it to explore for 2–3 minutes.
2. Test one stimulus at a time.
3. Gently present the stimulus near the snail (do not touch it at first).
4. Observe the snail for 1–2 minutes. Record what happens.
5. Allow the snail to rest for a few minutes between tests.
6. Keep the snail moist and safe at all times. Handle gently.

Important: After the experiment, return the snail to a safe outdoor place.

☀️ STIMULI TO TEST

You will test how the snail responds to the stimuli below.

	Stimulus	How to Present It
💧	Water (spray)	Lightly spray water near the snail.
🍋	Lemon juice or vinegar	Use a dropper to place a small drop near the snail (not on it).
🧂	Salt	Place a few grains of salt near the snail.
🪮	Touch (gentle)	Gently touch the snail's shell with a soft brush or cotton swab.
🌿	Food (lettuce)	Place a small piece of lettuce near the snail.

👁️ OBSERVATIONS

Record what the snail does for each stimulus.

Stimulus	What the snail did	How long did it take to respond? (seconds)
Water (spray)		
Lemon juice or vinegar		
Salt		
Touch (gentle)		
Food (lettuce)		

★ CONCLUSION

What did you learn about how snails respond to different stimuli?
