SCIENCE EXPERIMENT LAB SHEET

Observing Snail Locomotion on Different Surfaces

Name: _____

Date: _____

Scientist: _____

QUESTION

How does the type of surface affect how a snail moves?

HYPOTHESIS

If a snail moves on different surfaces,
then I predict it will _____.

because _____.

MATERIALS

- 1 snail
- Flat tray or shallow box
- Different surface samples (see suggestions)
- Ruler (cm)
- Timer or stopwatch
- Spray bottle with water
- Paper towel
- Observation sheet (this page)

SURFACE SUGGESTIONS:
Smooth plastic, glass, paper, cardboard, fabric, sandpaper, leaf.

PROCEDURE

1. Place one surface sample in the tray.
2. Lightly mist the surface with water to keep it slightly moist.
3. Place the snail at one end of the surface.
4. Start the timer and observe the snail for 2 minutes.
5. Measure how far the snail travels in 2 minutes.
6. Observe how the snail moves (speed, ease of movement, any sliding, stopping, or turning).
7. Record your observations in the data table.
8. Gently return the snail to a moist area while you change the surface.
9. Repeat steps 1–8 for each different surface.

DATA TABLE

Surface	Distance Traveled in 2 minutes (cm)	Movement Description *(fast/slow, smooth, stops often, slips, etc.)*	Was it Easy or Difficult to Move? *(Easy / Difficult)*
Smooth Plastic			
Glass			
Paper			
Cardboard			
Fabric			
Sandpaper			
Leaf			
Other: _____			

ANALYSIS & CONCLUSION

1. Which surface did the snail move the fastest on? _____
2. Which surface did the snail move the slowest on? _____
3. Which surface was the easiest for the snail to move on? _____
4. Which surface was the most difficult for the snail to move on? _____
5. What patterns did you notice about how surface texture affected the snail's movement?

   _____

   _____
6. What did you learn from this experiment? _____

   _____

   _____

SAFETY & CARE: Always handle the snail gently. Keep it moist. Do not use salt or any harmful substances. Return the snail to a safe, natural area after the experiment.