

Research Project Journal

Day 1 : Wrote first draft of my background information. I found lots of websites mentioning my question, but very little actually go into detail. This is very frustrating for me, and makes it harder to write my background info Date: 7/2/16

Day 2 : Sent draft in for checking. When I received the reply I found I had not put enough information into how I can test for the different factors Date: 11/2/16

Day 3 : Edited draft based on feedback Date: 15/2/16

Day 5 : Found rain gage on ebay and bought it Date: 17/2/16

Day 6 : emailed a vendor on ebay about buying some algae. He was very helpful and talked me through his different types of algae and which would best suit my experiment. Date 19/2/16

Day 7 : set up rain gage for rain catchment. Date 20/2/16

Day 8 : It rained over night and I found that it was acidic. This contradicts my hypothesis, and means the pH might not be the reason for a green pool. I will go ahead with my test and if this is correct I will test how the dilution of the chlorine affects algae growth.. Date 21/2/16

Day 9 : I tested the pool water today and found that my dipsticks were faulty and the colors did not show up well. To solve this I used our reagent drops kit instead. I made a list of all needed equipment and plan to buy it on Thursday or Saturday. I need to get things such as: acid, soda ash, plastic tubs, algae, chlorine and liquid fertilizer. My mum found a place that sells algae and placed an order for me
Date: 23/2/16

Day 10 : I began work on my risk assessment. I struggled to find information on how to make a good one for a science experiment. In the end I made one on Numbers based on my recollection of things we have completed in class. Date: 5/3/16

Day 13 : I received one algae tube but not the 4 others. I had to text to follow up on order. Received apologetic reply and he promised he will send them ASAP. Date: 7/3/16

Day 12 : 10/3/16 I received 5 algae samples in small tubes through mail. I began researching more about how to successfully grow algae. I found that it must be in a warm light place but not in direct sunlight, and that there must be stones in the water for the algae to grow off. I also found that it helps to put in some liquid seaweed fertiliser.

Day 13 : I began to cultivate algae in beaker with stones and liquid fertiliser. I only used 3 algae tubes in case I did something wrong

Day 14 : I have finished my risk assessment with 4 risks identified. I have also started researching how to write a method and start it. Date: 20/3/16

Day 15 : I updated my background information to accommodate for changes in my assignment. As I have collected rain and measured its pH I have found rain is acidic not basic which means that it is unlikely the pH of rain affects the pool's colour. For this reason I have decided to also test for the effect of dilution on the chlorine as well as pH.

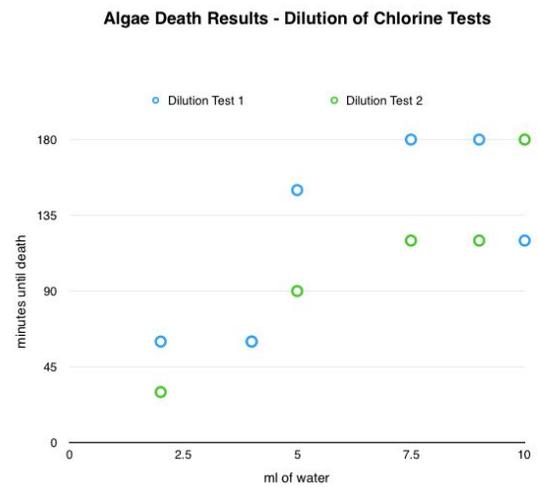
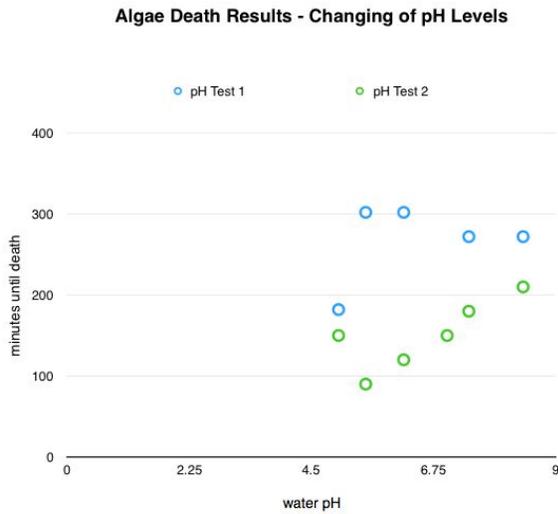
Day 16 : My Father went and bought 6 test tubes at Mascot. I made myself a test tube rack after school. It was harder than expected as we don't own the variety of tools that are at school. After testing it out with water I found it was not stable enough so I added a large plank of wood across the bottom. I also tested whether or not the soda ash was a sufficient way to change the pH. With 400 ml of rain water the pH was 6.2
After adding 1 tsp of soda ash it was 10.4qq. The dramatic change in pH caused with so little soda ash means it will be much harder to get the pH values I need. Because of this I have decided to mix in a much bigger amount of water to make it easier to get the needed pH values. Date: 25/3/16



Day 16 : I have found a website which lets me make scientific diagrams to put in my work. I have used the diagrams throughout my method. Date: 16/3/16

Day 17 : I conducted the test for pH today. I decided to change from fifteen minute checks to half hour because not much happened in 15 minutes. Another change I made

was to to put three drops of chlorine in instead of 1 because after a trial run I found there was not enough chlorine to kill off the algae. I also did my first chlorine dilution test today. This test had a much stronger trend than the first. Date : 18/3/16



Day 18 : I have conducted both tests again and put my results into tables. The test for different pH did not go as I expected. I tried to insert a dot plot of when each algae died and my work stopped responding. I have lost 14 pages of work, but my mum is helping retype it, because she can touch type really quick. I think it must be a virus because when I tried to open my backups they all failed as well. I took screenshots of what is on the page to speed things up but I had to stay up till 2 in the morning to get all back
Date: 3/4/16