EXPLORATION

1D. Question: How do bananas, plastic straws, and a napkin recycle into soil?

1E. In the prediction below, circle the item or items which you think will recycle into the soil.

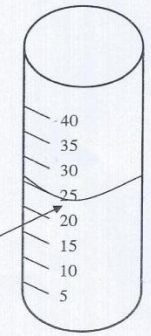
Prediction: I think that the (banana) plastic straw napkin will recycle into the soil.

1F. Complete the list below with the specific amount of materials your group will need to use.

Materials for your group:

- 3 clear plastic cups
- 3 craft sticks
- cm ruler
- 25 ml graduated cylinder
- 2 cm pea gravel
- 4 cm top soil
- 3 cm thick piece of banana
- 3 cm slim plastic straw
- 3 cm x 3 cm piece of napkin
- 25 ml water

Graduated Cylinder



Read at the bottom of the curve.

1G. Read the procedures listed below.

Procedure:

1. Measure 2 cm of pea gravel into a clear plastic cup.
2. Measure 4 cm of top soil into the same clear plastic cup.
3. Using a craft stick, dig a small hole in the soil in the cup.
4. Label the craft stick "Banana." Label the back side of the craft stick with your group's number or your name.
5. Measure and cut the banana.
6. Using the craft stick, place the banana in the hole in the soil. Then cover the banana with soil.
7. In the cup, pour 25 ml of water.
8. Place the unlabeled end of the craft stick into the soil along the edge of the cup.
9. A different person in your group will repeat steps 1-7 for the slim plastic straw.
10. A different person in your group will repeat steps 1-7 for the napkin.
11. Complete **1H**, on page 9. Then, make your observations.
12. Place the cups in a warm, sunny spot.

Orange

Results/Observations:

You are now ready to make your observations (eyes only). You may choose to use some of the words in the text box below to help you describe your observations. You may also come up with other words to use. Record and draw your observations in the boxes below.

yellow	soft	dry	smooth edges
green	mushy	damp	flat
tan	squishy	moist	bumpy
black	firm	soggy	rough edges
clear	hard	wet	no change

	Banana	Plastic Straw	Napkin
First Observation	~~yellow~~ mushy bumpy	yellow hard dry	cream colored flat dry
Second Observation 1 week later	moldy hairy brown Mushier	Stiff hard	torn-up Mildew covered

	Banana	Plastic Straw	Napkin
Third Observation 1 week later	hard ~~Moldy~~ crumbly	Stiffer harder firm	Wimpy Mildewish dirty
Fourth Observation 1 week later	Small hard	~~Stiffer~~ harder firmer	moldier smaller
Fiveth observation 1 week later	moldier skinnier harder	firm greenish tinge	Smaller torn-up

5/5

B

Summary:

Circle the material you choose to discuss in your summary.

banana plastic straw napkin

Describe what happened to the material you chose in the investigation. Be sure to use specific details from your observations and vocabulary in your answer.

The banana decomposed into the soil, So my prediction is correct. In the 1st week the Banana was: Yellow, mushy and bumpy. In the 2nd week it was: moldy, hairy, brown, and mushy. It was also: hard, crumbly, small, and stinky. That Banana truly did decay, very, very, very slowly.

great job!