



EekoWorld Knows

“Protecting the Environment Means Protecting Yourself.”

Intro:

You can be an EekoWorld scientist today, making our world a better place to live tomorrow. Go online and explore ecosystems, see first-hand the effect pollution has on ecosystems and develop your own method of reducing pollution. You can find EekoWorld on line at pbskidsgo.org/eekoworld.

Angry Acid

Try This At Home

Acid rain is a major pollution problem found in many regions of the United States. Acid rain occurs when chemicals enter the atmosphere and react with water and oxygen. The acid produced falls to the earth causing damage to plants, animals and man-made structures. You can see the effects of acid rain on plants by conducting the following experiment.

Collect it:

- 4 plastic cups
- dirt / potting soil
- water
- nail
- seeds
- vinegar
- spray bottle

Do it:

Setup

1. An adult should help you with the experiment.
2. Poke 3 small holes in each cup using a nail.
3. Fill four small cups with dirt.
4. Plant 4-6 wild flower seeds in each cup. (spread evenly)
5. Water plants. (keep moist, not saturated)
6. Continue to water and care for plants until 2-3 inches of foliage is present.

Experiment

1. Fill a small spray bottle with water and vinegar. (protect your eyes)
2. Continue to water and care for plants.
3. Spray foliage 2 times a day with the vinegar (acid) mixture.
4. Continue until plants show visible signs of damage.

Results:

You should notice visible signs of wilting and browning after you spray the foliage. The plants will continue to brown and droop while they slowly die.

After you have conducted the experiment the fun does not have to end. Use the list below to choose a category that represents your data. Send your results to www.SDPB.org/learning. Then go online and see how your results compare to other scientists across the country.

Acid rain devastation seen in:

- less than 2 days
- 2 – 5 days
- more than 5 days



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