Living Things - Fungi Experiments

By Amelia and Siadbh - 5th Class

What is Fungi?

Fungi grow everywhere!

Fungi aren't real plants they have no stems or roots and they don't produce food by photosynthesis

Unlike plants they don't contain cellulose. Instead they are made up of chitin.(Chitin is a chemical that makes up insects jaws)

Fungi can cause diseases but may also cure them. Fungi also feed on dead and decaying matter.

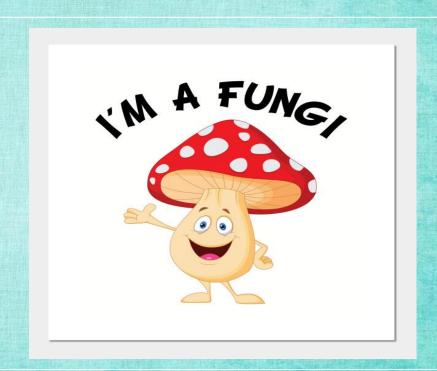
Welcome to the wonderful world of fungi !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Our Fungi Experiment, How to make Fungi

Experiment materials:

- 4 Slices of white bread
- 4 Ziploc bags
- 1 Marker

Kitchen towels





Mouldy Bread Method

- 1. Label <u>all</u> 4 ziploc bags A B C D
- 2. Dampen 2 squares of kitchen towel with water
- 3. Place the 2 damp squares into the bags A&B
- 4. Then put 1 slice of bread in <u>all</u> of the bags and <u>seal</u> them
- 5. Place bags C&A near a radiator
- 6. Then place bags D&B in a cupboard out of <u>light</u>
- 7. Leave all 4 bags for around 10 days



The Result

After we left the bags for 10 days this is what we found out.

We left Bag A in a cupboard out of light with a damp kitchen towel and

We left Bag B near a radiator with a damp kitchen towel and

We left Bag C in a cupboard out of light

We left Bag D near a radiator



Potato Blight

The greatest most deadly fungi in the world was the Potato Blight in Ireland .The Famine began quite mysteriously on September 1845 as the leaves on the potato plants suddenly turned black and curled. The potato also gained importance as a crop in Ireland, so when it got diseased it was a shock to all people living in Ireland.

Now we are going to be making time with potatoes

What you need..

2 Zinc plates,

LCD watch movement

Connection wire

Adhesive tape

2 forks

1 potato halved



Method

1. Connect the red wire on the LCD

To a fork and the black wire to a Zink

Plate.

2. Get another fork and Zinc plate and

The fork and connect them and secure with tape

3.Insert the forks and zinc plates into

The potato halves and the watch will start blinking

How does it work?

The forks act like the positive electrodes of a battery. They are plated with a metal which is less reactive then zinc. When the forks and zinc plates are inserted into the potato, a chemical reaction takes place. Electrons move from the zinc plates to the forks to form a current, which then activating the LCD watch. The potato juice helps conduct electricity.

Fun Facts About Time

The development of the battery started in 1775 when a scientist called Alessandro Volta invented a machine that produced and stored static electricity. By rubbing cat fur across a metal plate.

In 1800 Volta made the first ever battery



We hope you have enjoyed!!!!!

