

Biomass

Name _____

Phenomenon: Watch the watermelon decompose in this [video](#):



What do you notice about changes to the watermelon over time?

Ask three questions about the phenomenon.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Design Question: Using decomposition, can you produce a useful substance?

Use the following websites to research the products that could form in your bag:

https://www.eia.gov/energyexplained/?page=biomass_home

<https://www.reenergyholdings.com/renewable-energy/what-is-biomass/>

Materials: Ziploc freezer bags, sugar, cornmeal, leaves, grass clippings, sawdust, vegetables, fruit, crackers, yeast, triple beam balance, or electronic balance.

Procedures: Write down the steps your group will take to design a “digester”:

Compare your procedures to another group. Make changes if you wish.

Data: What happened? How will you show a useful substance was produced?

Explanation

Questions:

1. Under what conditions do organic substances break down quickly and thoroughly?
2. Could decomposition produce useful substances?
3. Make a claim concerning your investigation. Did you produce a biofuel?

Claim

Evidence

Reasoning