

Investigate How can you grow and compare fungi?**Materials**

slice of bread

piece of orange

piece of banana

plastic bag

tape

hand lens

What to Do

- 1 Using the tips of your fingers, sprinkle a few drops of water on your slice of bread.
- 2 Put the pieces of fruit and the slice of bread in the bag.
- 3 Fold over the end of the bag and seal it with tape. Make sure no air can get in or out of the bag.
- 4 Some of the students in your class will place their bags in a cool, dark place. A cabinet or drawer should work. Other students will leave their bags in the light.
- 5 Let the bags sit undisturbed for one week. Then examine the bags.

Be Careful! *Do not open the bags.*

- 6 Observe the fungi with your hand lens.
- 7 On a chart like the one shown, draw pictures of the fungi you grew.

Explain Your Results

1. In which group of bags did more species of fungi grow?
2. How can you tell different species of fungi apart?
3. How did the fungi get inside the bags?

Data and Observations

Fungi on Bread	Fungi on Orange	Fungi on Banana