

Algae Growth

Procedure

1. **Collaborate** Work with a partner. Record your observations and inferences in the chart below.

Container	A	B	C
Observations at start			
Inferences			
Observations after 4 days			
Inferences			

2. **Observe** Shine a flashlight through the side of each of three containers. Record your observations in the chart.
3. **Infer** Two of the containers have different amounts of plant food mixed with the pond water. One contains no plant food. Infer which jar contains a small amount of plant food, which contains a large amount of plant food, and which contains no plant food. Based on your observations in step 2, make an inference about which container has the most plant food.
4. **Observe** Put the containers in a sunny window for four days. Then repeat steps 2 and 3.

5. Communicate On the lines below, write a brief paragraph explaining how you made your inferences.

Conclusion

Write the answers to the questions below.

1. Predict What effect do you think adding plant food would have on algae growth in a small pond?

2. Hypothesize In what way could adding plant food to a small pond be a threat to the survival of other organisms in the pond?

Investigate More!

Solve a Problem You notice that the water in a pond suddenly looks cloudy. Working as a team, make a plan to find out what caused it and what to do about it.

