

Activity

B104

Illustrating that a plant releases oxygen during photosynthesis.

Equipment

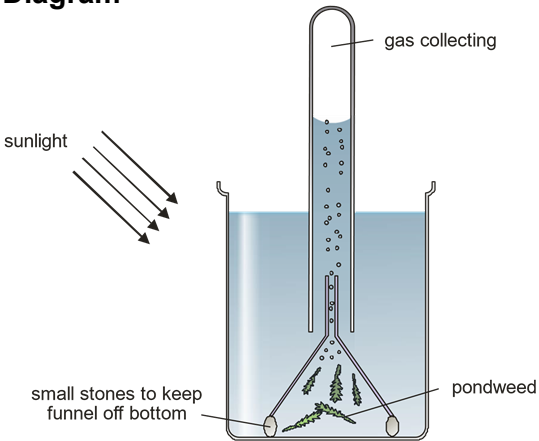
Equipment / Materials

- Large Beakers or other containers
- Test tubes
- Pondweeds e.g. *Elodea* or *Ceratophyllum*
- Small stones
- Funnels
- Splint
- Matches
- Spatula

Chemicals

- Sodium hydrogen trioxocarbonate (IV)

Diagram



Method

1. Put some pondweed into two separate beakers or containers, with pond water & a spatula full of Sodium hydrogen trioxocarbonate (IV) in each.
2. Cover the weed with an upturned funnel supported on some small stones as (Fig. 1). The test tube is filled with water and inverted over the funnel. To do this, all the apparatus will need to be immersed under water.
3. Place one of the beakers in sunlight and the other in the dark.
4. After four hours compare results.
5. Carefully remove the test tube with gas from the beaker. Quickly insert a glowing splint. If it flares up, oxygen is present.