

Household Inventory

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Standard Statement(s):

4.5.7 – Identify chemical labels

4.5.10 – Identify the health risks associated with chemicals used in common pesticides

Content Objective(s):

The students will be able to:

1. Read and explain pesticide labels
2. Analyze data

Assessment Strategies:

Discussions, written reports, labeled diagrams

Procedures:

Introduction:

Before anyone can become concerned about the effects of synthetic (or natural) chemicals in the environment they need to know which chemicals are present in their environment. An easy method to increase this awareness is to conduct a home inventory of chemicals, including pesticides. How much and what kind do you have? Where are they stored? How old are they, etc.? The activity should be usable for varied grade levels. For younger students it may be desirable to include parents in the information gathering portion of the lesson. Older students should be able to accomplish this portion working independently, but should notify parents as to what they are doing.

Use a sampling of household chemicals and pesticides that are commonly found in the home to develop interest among the students. Explain where they were kept, why you have them, what you use them for, etc. Ask students what they think they will find in their homes, where they think they are kept, and why their parents have them. Do their parents use Mr. Yuck? Introduce assignment to compile a list of chemicals in their homes and hand out letters to parents (see attached) and data sheets to be filled in as the students complete the assignment.

Establish locations throughout the classroom for the students to enter their data as to type of chemical and location for storage for later statistical analysis. Publish results in the school newspaper or as a report to parents from the class(es).

References:

MSDS information for any chemicals used in schools

Merck Index

PDR

Related Web Sites:

www.google.com

Pesticide labels (agricultural): <http://www.cdms.net/manuf.asp>

California Dept. of Pesticide Regulation:

<http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/epa/epamenu.htm>

Penn State Pesticide Education Program: <http://www.pested.psu.edu>

Suggested Level:

Grade 7 or 8

When appropriate in curriculum

Standard Category:

IPM

Science and Technology

Science as Inquiry

Materials:

www

Resource books

IPM materials

D.B. Pest

Instructional Strategies:

Direct Instruction

Research

Project based

Large group

