

Topic: Enzyme Activity Lab

Summary: Students will determine the concentration of the enzyme catalase in different foods. Students will test if temperature affects enzyme activity.

Goals & Objectives: Students will be able to analyze the results of food with different concentrations of the enzyme catalase. Students will be able to analyze how temperature affects enzyme activity. Students will be able to create a bar graph of their results.

NGSS Standards: *HS-LS1-3. Homeostasis and enzymes.* Plan and conduct an investigation to provide evidence that feedback mechanisms maintain homeostasis.

Time Length: 100 minutes

Materials:

- Raw beef liver
- Raw ground beef
- Raw carrots
- Sugar cubes
- Hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2)
- Goggles, gloves, and lab aprons
- Forceps
- Plates or bowls
- Graduated cylinder lab per station
- 2 thermometers per lab station
- 10 test tubes in rack per lab station
- Test tube brushes and soap at sink

Lab Setup:

Cut liver and Carrot into small cubes, a size small enough to fit into your test tubes. Role ground beef into small balls the same size as above. Set-up a food station with liver cubes, ground beef cubes, carrot cubes, and sugar cubes, each in a beaker. Setup a liquid station with one beaker of the chilled hydrogen peroxide and another beaker of room temperature hydrogen peroxide. Chill the hydrogen peroxide in the refrigerator and bring out right before lab starts. Setup the student stations with 10 test tubes per rack, a graduated cylinder, 2 thermometers, and forceps. Prepare the sink for disposal of waste materials and clean-up of test tubes.

Procedures:

1. Group students as lab partners. Each group should be assigned to a lab station. If there are more groups than stations, put two groups per station or make groups of four. Hand out lab safety equipment.
2. Students conduct the lab, start filling out the handout, and clean their lab areas once finished.
3. Students return to their desks and then finish filling out the handout and graphs.
4. Completion of the two bar graphs: one graph with the bubble activity as the DV and the other graph with the change in temperature as the DV. Both graphs have the food material as the IV.

Accommodations: Students who are not able to participate or are not willing to participate in the handling of food can record observations, temperature and time onto their handout. If you do not have much time, you can have students do a room temperature reading instead of both room temperature H_2O_2 and cold H_2O_2 . Students with an IEP can take the handout home if they need extra time, work with two other partners if not able to take measurements, and/or create one graph instead of two.

Editable DOCX File and Answer Key:

Available at www.ngsslifescience.com

Enzyme Activity Lab Student Instructions

Procedures:

1. Students are to wear the safety equipment at all times. Goggles are mandatory for the entire lab.
2. One lab partner goes to the food material station with 3 test tubes and puts the raw liver into the first test tube, cooked liver in the second test tube, and liver soaked in acid in the third test tube. Student returns to lab table and puts the test tubes in the test tube rack. (*DO NOT put the hydrogen peroxide in the test tube yet*).
3. Put the test tube clamp at the top of the raw liver test tube.
4. Another student obtains 5 mL of hydrogen peroxide using the 10 mL graduate cylinder. Student then puts the thermometer in the hydrogen peroxide to record an initial temperature (should wait 30 seconds). Student records data in the data table under initial temperature.
5. Pour the 5 mL of hydrogen peroxide into the raw liver test tube. Immediately put the thermometer into the test tube.
6. Take the test tube out of the rack using the clamp to watch the chemical reaction and watch the thermometer for the highest temperature. Record the bubble activity and the highest temperature reading in the data table.
7. Once the chemical reaction is mostly over (small amount of bubbles), put the test tube back into the rack and remove the clamp from the test tube.
8. Put the clamp on the next test tube and repeat procedures 4 through 7.
9. Dispose of the lab supplies per teacher instructions. Clean up the lab table.

Enzyme Activity Lab

Driving Question: Why do we cook our food and put lime on fish / shrimp to make ceviche?

Background:

The purpose of this lab is for you to see how the environment can affect enzyme activity. This lab uses enzymes found in liver, called catalase. What you want to pay attention to is the amount of chemical reactions the enzyme will perform in different environmental conditions. These catalase enzymes will break down hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2).

Hypothesis:

Materials:

- Raw liver (chicken, beef)
- Liver soaked in acidic acid (.5 M) over night
- Liver cooked in microwave for at least 1 minute (cover with paper towel)
- Forceps to transfer the liver
- Goggles, and if desired gloves / lab aprons
- 3 test tubes in rack per lab group
- Test tube brushes and soap at sink
- 1 Thermometer per lab group
- 10 mL Graduated cylinder
- Hydrogen peroxide (3%)

Quantitative Data:

Material	Initial Temp ° Celsius	Highest Temp ° Celsius	Change in Temperature
Raw Enzymes	_____	_____	_____
Cooked Enzymes	_____	_____	_____
Acid + Enzymes	_____	_____	_____

Qualitative Data:

Material	Bubble Activity (Circle)	Observations
Raw Enzymes	0 1 2 3 4 5	_____
Cooked Enzymes	0 1 2 3 4 5	_____
Acid + Enzymes	0 1 2 3 4 5	_____
0 = no bubbles 5 = most bubbles		

Variables:

Independent: _____ Control Group: _____

Dependent: _____ & _____

Constants: _____

Graphing:

Create two bar graphs before continuing. On one graph, use “change in temperature” as the dependent variable, and on the other graph, use “bubble activity” for dependent variable.

Analysis:

1. Which *food* material had the most bubble activity? _____
2. Which *food* material caused the largest temperature change of the hydrogen peroxide?

3. Which food material had the smallest chemical reaction? _____

4. Would the enzyme catalase work on other molecules besides H₂O₂? _____

5. What type of biomolecule are enzymes? _____

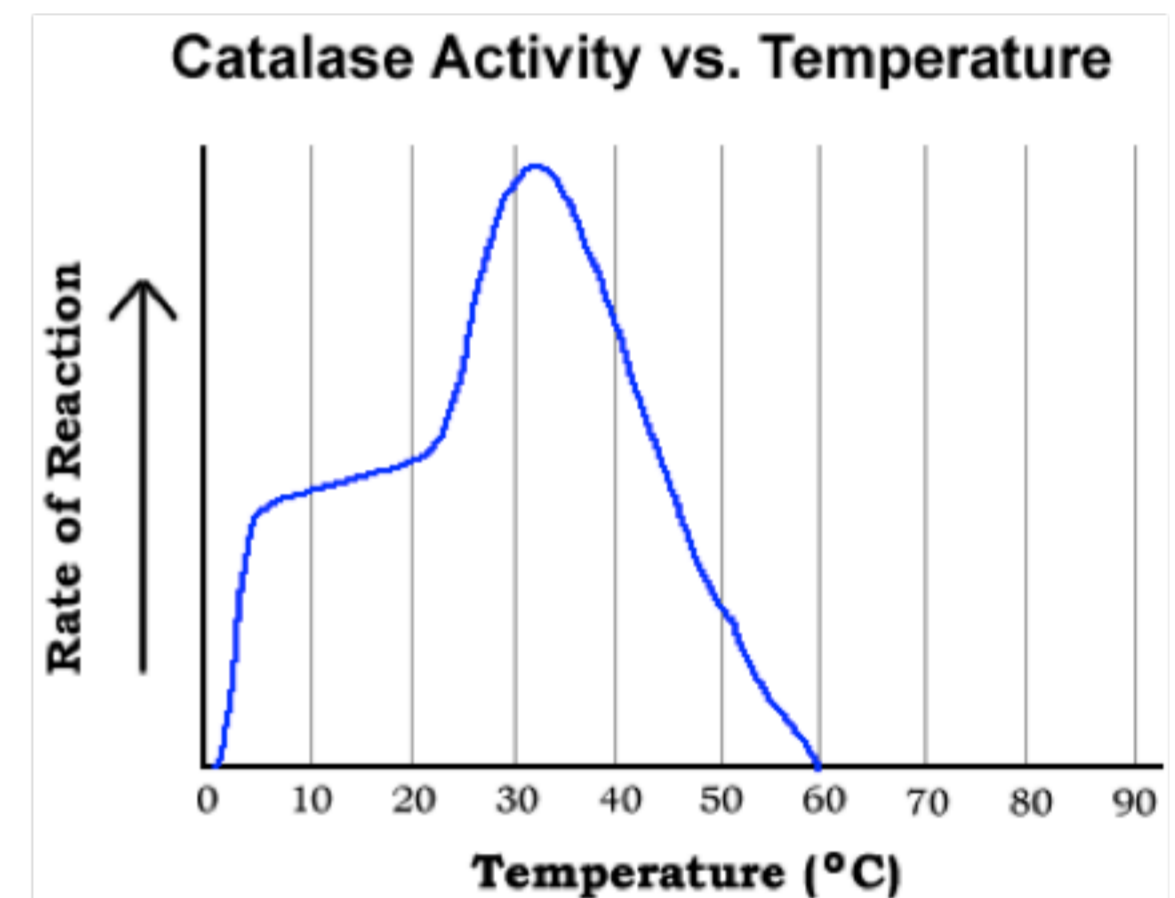
6. What is the monomer of this biomolecule? _____

The graph on the right represents catalase activity based on temperature.

7. Predict the body’s set-point for the catalase enzyme? _____ °C

8. Predict the temperature the enzyme will denature? _____ °C

9. What happens to the enzyme activity when the body’s temperature is 5 °C off its set-point? _____



10. Below, use the reactants to predict the gas created by the enzyme reaction in today’s lab. Then balance the chemical reaction.



Experimental Errors:

Conclusion: Write a Claim Evidence Reasoning paragraph answering the driving question (Why do we cook our food and put lime on fish / shrimp to make ceviche).

Practical Applications: Why do doctors worry when their patients have a high fever like 104 °F or 40 °C ?