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| **Recommendations:**  1. The most important factor in our experiment, being ultraviolet radiation, should be measured to make our project scientifically accurate and believable. However, our access to an instrument that could measure levels of UV radiation was non-existent. It also would have been preferable to have access to a simple spectrophotometer to measure the levels of light emitted in each of the three conditions of our experiment to ensure that the differences resulting from our experiment were not from a simple difference in the amounts of light emitted.  2. Though it may not be obvious at first glance, collecting data on this number of plants is a much greater chore than one might expect. After measuring and counting literally thousands of stupid little sprouts, a hatred of plants tends to develop. Please, for your sanity, consider limiting the number of seeds that you plant or, at least, gather a team of about ten patient individuals who really, really like measuring itty, bitty little plants.  3. Though we have research that suggests saran wrap is an acceptable material to block UV radiation, something like an actual sheet of Plexiglas or glass would be preferred in this experiment, as saran wrap isn�t flat and is therefore hanging above the sprouts at different heights. Also, it was necessary to use two pieces of saran wrap, as the pieces were not large enough. Though the overlap was small and was directly above the center of the seed starter (where there is a plastic division), it would still be better to have the same covering above the entire starter.  4. Please do not use our watering procedures, as they resulted in the death of all but four of our soybeans (RIP). Yes, we did indeed kill 212 soybean seeds by drastically over watering these seeds that do not like too much moisture. Had we looked into the preferred growing methods of soybeans before starting our homicidal watering methods, the soybeans would have grown. The alfalfa, the wheat and the oat all liked the vast quantities of water they were first provided with, but later also developed some mold, like the soybeans. Because we watered the seedlings so much in their first couple days, the plants did not need to be watered for over a week due to the extremely wet soil. The seedlings were not in a warm place, so the water took a while to evaporate. Water the plants with smaller amounts of water in closer intervals.  5. Obtain a very sensitive scale- we had originally planned on having weight of the seedlings being a very important factor in determining the success of the plants under different conditions. However, sprouts weigh very little (especially after being baked to remove all their moisture to measure the actual growth of the plants only).  6. Make sure all plastic bags are taped securely- duct tape is much stronger than Scotch tape. At one point, our dividers between the different lights began to fall down, and this could have compromised our experiment if the problem had not been fixed.  7. Do not go on vacation during a science experiment, because your partner has to do all the work. And if you were planning on going to Milwaukee, you really don�t want to go there anyway.  8. And last, but certainly not least, don�t procrastinate. Procrastination is evil and leads to lots and lots of stress and loss of hair. It�s bad, so don�t do it.  [Conclusions](http://docs.google.com/conclusions.html)  [[Home](http://docs.google.com/home.html)][[Introduction](http://docs.google.com/introduction.html)][[Hypothesis](http://docs.google.com/hypothesis.html)][[Procedure](http://docs.google.com/procedure.html)][[Data](http://docs.google.com/data.html)][[Conclusions](http://docs.google.com/conclusions.html)][[Bilio/Links](http://docs.google.com/biblio.html)]  [[2001 Projects](http://docs.google.com/index.html)][[2000 Projects](http://docs.google.com/AP2000/index.html)][[1999 Projects](http://docs.google.com/AP99/index.html)][[1998 Projects](http://docs.google.com/AP98/index.html)] |