



Sun Or Shade?

Grade Levels: 1-4

Background

Light energy can turn into heat when it hits objects. Heat moves around a lot when it is a gas form—like the air around us. It wants to find a balance, and hot air and cold air will often change temperature until they meet right in the middle.

Question

Is the air the same temperature in the sun and in the shade?

Possible Hypothesis

The air is/is not the same temperature in the sun and in the shade.

Materials

- Thermometer

Procedure

1. Hang a thermometer in the shade for five minutes. Record the temperature of the air.
2. Hang the thermometer in the sun for five minutes. Record the temperature of the air.

Analysis and Conclusion

Is the air really warmer in the sun? Why might air feel warmer in some places?

