GROUP MEMBERS:
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BANANA CHALLENGE: STEM-ED October 3, 2009

Illuminating Life: *What's New and Noteworthy in Luminescence Spectroscopy and Imaging*

Patricia B. O’Hara, Professor of Chemistry, Amherst College, Amherst, MA 01002

Richard A. Blatchly, Professor of Chemistry, Keene State College, Keene, NH

It has recently been discovered that on the way to rotting, the chlorophyll molecules in the banana peel start to degrade, and in so doing, become fluorescent (see attached paper). We’d like to explore this phenomenon for the next half hour, brainstorming questions that such an observation might raise for your students and designing a quick experiment that you can do this morning to see if this is or is not feasible.

In 20 minutes, each group will report out:

What will be your central experimental Question or Hypothesis?

What is the experimental plan or inquiry guidleines?

What are the learning goals for this Lab?