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Scientific Method Worksheet

TITLE

The Effect of Amount of Sunlight (Independent Variable)
on Dandelion Leaf Width (Dependent Variable).

OBSERVATIONS: The dandelions in the front of your house, which receives the most sun, have smaller leaf widths than the dandelions in the shaded backyard of your house.

HYPOTHESIS

If dandelions are exposed to more sunlight per day, (planned change in independent variable), then their leaves will be thinner (predicted change in dependent variable).

INDEPENDENT VARIABLE: Amount of sunlight provided to each dandelion plant
Measured by: Time in hours of exposure to sunlight

DEPENDENT VARIABLE: Width of dandelion leaves
Measured by: Width in centimeters

CONSTANTS:

1. Same variety of dandelion
2. Amount of water
3. Same potting soil
4. _____

PROCEDURE:

1. Obtain 12 flower pots and 12 dandelion plants with approximately the same leaf widths.
2. Measure initial dandelion leaf widths and record results.
3. Plant one dandelion plant in each of the pots.
4. Keep pots in a dark place when not exposing to sunlight.
5. Place 3 pots in direct sunlight for 3 hours a day.
6. Place 3 pots in direct sunlight for 6 hours a day.
7. Place 3 pots in direct sunlight for 9 hours a day.
8. Place 3 pots in direct sunlight for 12 hours a day.