Unit focus: Living Things
Text focus: Science Experiment

STAGE 5

Growing Seeds

Aim:

I am aiming to determine the difference the amount of light makes on how tall a plant grows.

Equipment:

- 6 Sunflower seeds
- 300g Compost
- 6 Seed pots

Prediction:

I know that plants require sunlight to grow; therefore, I predict that the seeds in the sunlight will grow taller than those without sunlight.

Method:

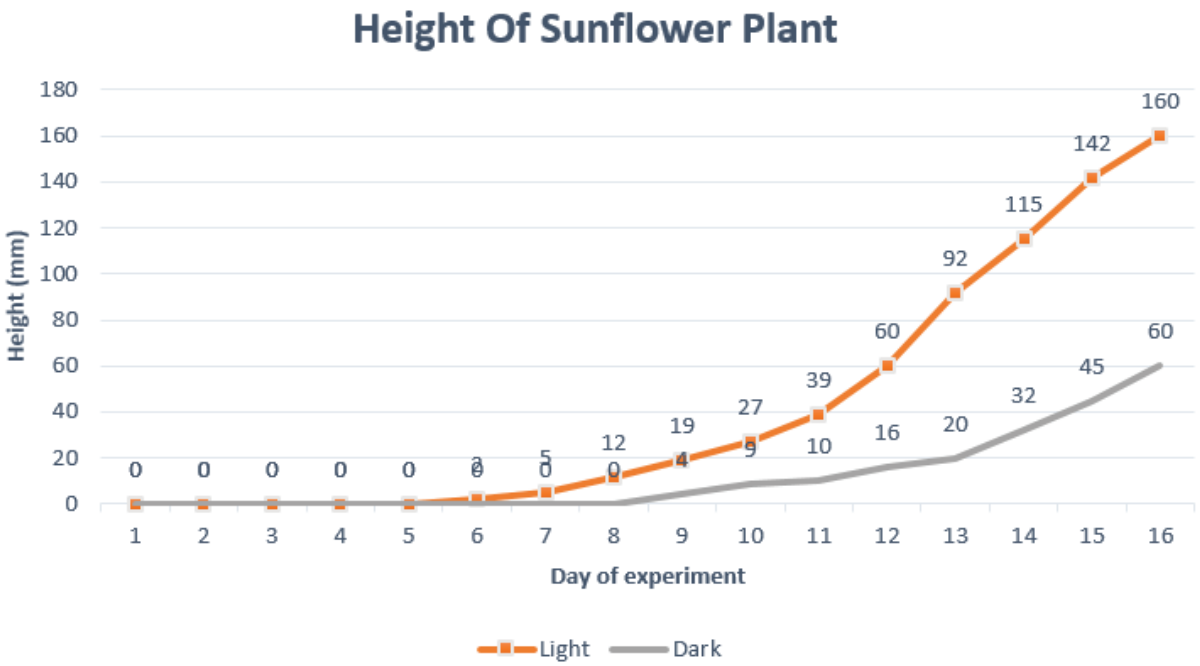
1. Fill each pot with 50g of compost.
2. Use a pencil to push a hole into the middle of the compost.
3. Sow one seed per pot and cover with the compost.
4. Place three of the pots next to a window that receives a lot of sunlight. Place the other three pots in a dark cupboard.

Fair Test:

It is important to follow guidelines to ensure the test is fair:

- Try to keep the temperature around the pots as similar as possible. Don't use an airing cupboard for the dark test.
- Water the seeds with the same amount of water, at the same time.
- When you take the measurements, do them at the same time.

Results:



Conclusion:

After observing my results, I found that the seed in the dark took longer to germinate. It was also very pale and hadn't produced the same leaves that the plant in the light had. I think that this shows conclusively that sunflowers need sunlight to germinate quickly and to grow healthily.

SUMMARY FOCUS

1. **Why do you need six pots?**
2. **What important information did the author use to form their prediction?**
3. **What should you do before you create a hole in the compost?**
4. **In which set of conditions did the seeds germinate first?**
5. **Why did the author conclude that sunflowers need sunlight?**

VIPERS QUESTIONS

I	How many days did it take the seeds in the light to reach 60mm?
V	Which word or phrase means closest to "without any doubt"?
E	Why has the author represented their results as a graph, rather than a table?
R	How much compost would you need in total?
R	Between days 10 and 11, which set of plants only grew 1mm on average?