

The food tests: student's copy

Part 1: investigating simple tests for 3 common food substances.

It's easy to tell which foods and drinks contain **sugars** (.....) and **fats/oils** leave on your clothes, but how do you know which foods contain **starch** or **protein**?

1. Benedict's test

Method:

1. Label five test tubes as follows: 'Protein', 'Sucrose', 'Glucose', 'Starch', and 'Water'.
2. Squirt about 1mL of each solution into its labelled test tube.
3. Squirt about 1mL of **Benedict's** solution into each tube, and swirl to mix.
4. Half-fill a beaker with boiling water (from the kettle) and place the 5 tubes in the beaker.
5. **Leave** until one of the mixtures changes colour. You may need to add more boiling water if there is no colour change after a few minutes.
6. Record the **colours** of the 5 mixtures in the Results table below.

Results:

Protein	Sucrose	Glucose	Starch	Water

2. Iodine Test

Method:

1. Squirt 3 drops of each solution into its named square on plastic grid #1.
2. Squirt one drop of **iodine** solution into each square.
3. Record the **colours** of the 5 mixtures in the Results table below.

Results:

Protein	Sucrose	Glucose	Starch	Water

3. Biuret test

Method:

1. Squirt 3 drops of each solution into its named square on plastic grid #1.
2. Squirt two drops of **sodium hydroxide** solution into each square.
3. Squirt one drop of **copper sulfate** solution into each square.
4. **Leave** for a few minutes until one of the tubes changes colour.
5. Record the **colours** of the 5 mixtures in the Results table below.

Results:

Protein	Sucrose	Glucose	Starch	Water

Summary Conclusion:

Iodine results	Biuret results	Benedict's results	Proves presence of
			protein
			glucose
			starch

Part 2: using the 3 simple food tests on some common foodstuffs.

Method:

1. Divide each food sample into **3 portions**.
2. Place **two portions** of each food on **plastic grid #2**: carry out the **iodine test** on the first portion, and the **Biuret test** on the second portion.
3. Place the third portions in **separate test tubes**; and carry out the **Benedict's Test** on each.
4. Record your results by placing up to 3 ticks or 1 cross in each box in the table below.

Food substance tested	Does the food go black with iodine?	Does the food go purple with Biuret?	Does the food go red with Benedict's?
apple			
banana (ripe)			
banana (green)			
bread			

butter			
cheese			
eggwhite			
flour			
honey			
meat			
milk			
orange			
pasta			
potato (raw)			
potato (cooked)			
rice			

Summary/Conclusions:

Foods rich in starch	Foods rich in protein	Foods rich in glucose