

PRIMARY LEVEL ACTIVITY

LEAF ME ALONE

Before the Investigation:




Read a book to your students about energy and/or the sun. You can use the [Primary Energy Flipbook](#) which you can download at www.need.org, or you can check out books on the topic from your library.

The Investigation

Question:

What will happen if the sun cannot reach a plant's leaves?

Materials:

-  Leafy plant(s) – You can have one for the class, or multiple ones so you can have small groups each conduct the investigation.
-  Black construction paper
-  Science notebooks or paper for recording observations

Procedure:

1. Students should record in their science notebooks predictions about what will happen.
2. Cut out 5-10 pieces of black construction paper so each piece is large enough to cover a leaf.
3. Tape the paper to different leaves. You should have some green (regular) leaves and some black (covered) leaves.
4. Students should draw a picture and label the parts of the plant with leaves covered and uncovered.
5. Place the plant in the sun for one week.
6. Uncover the leaves and examine what happened. Students should draw new pictures of the plant. They should be encouraged to draw close-ups of a leaf that was uncovered and a leaf that was covered.
7. If you have time, you can repeat steps 4-5 for another week.
8. Draw a conclusion as a class. What happened? Why?

