

**RESEARCH QUESTION:**

In the group we would like to study about how different amounts of water could affect plants. We will be creating an artificial drought by giving the plant less than average water so the plants, which are radishes and onions will be dealing with limited water, then giving them a normal amount, and then an extreme amount of water that is over what they need, this will represent a flood. We are experimenting on how different amounts of water affect plants.

**EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN:**

In our experiment there will be two types of plants that we will be working with to get the best possible results. We will be working with radishes and onions. Each of them needs to have their own specific requirements that will be needed to grow, even though we will be putting them through several conditions to see how they react. These facts about radishes will help us with our experiment about giving radishes droughts, floods, and normal weather. Radishes, on average, need 25 milliliters of water per 4 days, Radishes are also one of the most water rich vegetables meaning they need a lot of water. 40 milliliters every 4 days can cause overwatering. 15 milliliters every 4 days would be a moderate drought. Radishes should be planted about 1 inch apart and there should be 4-6 radish seeds. Radishes prefer fertile, deep, well-drained soils. They need plant seeds 1/2-1 inch deep. Radishes need 6 hours of sunlight per day. Radishes grow best in sandy soil. Radishes grow best in sandy soil. Drought can cause roots to develop bad flavor and tough texture. We need this information to successfully grow radishes. These facts are to help with the germination of our onions. Onions need a lot of care and to start that care you need to first, prepare a planting bed, by adding a fertilizer and amend fertilizer and amend soil as needed with will composted organic matter. Onion bulbs are produced by sowing seeds in a dense pattern in early summer and then being harvested in autumn. Next, when the bulbs are still small. Lastly, onions need an inch of water a week to survive, and 7-14 days before harvesting stop watering the onion. To conclude all we have stated, onions need a lot of care in order for this experiment to work.

**PREDICTION:**

We have some predictions of what will happen when we “flood” a plant, put a plant into a “drought” and then put a plant through its normal plant experience where it gets what it needs. If we give a plant a normal amount of water it will grow how a normal plant does and it will be healthy and will survive. If we give a plant a small amount of water, like in a drought, it will probably die and wilt. When it is overwatered in a flood, we think the plant will drown and die. A plant will grow a normal amount and be an average plant when it gets a normal amount of water. A plant will grow, probably slightly smaller, and die with a small amount of water if it continues to get a small amount of water for a long period of time such as if a plant would be going through an extreme drought. If a flood happens, we predict it will kill the plants or hurt them. The plants will be growing at

different speeds and in different sizes because of the amount of water we will give them. The ones that are in a “drought” will probably grow slower and not be as big because they are getting a limited amount of water, they could easily die as well but hopefully not. When you get a limited amount of water the plant will become very dry and it does not get enough nutrients that they need so they will start to dry out and die. The ones that are getting a normal amount of water for them will probably grow to the size that most of them are and be very healthy. They will grow to the size they are supposed to be because they are getting a normal amount of water so their systems will be happy and functioning because they will have everything that they should need. The ones that are getting too much water and are in a “flood” we think the plant will drown and die. We think they are going to drown because we will be giving them a lot over what they are supposed to, it will overpower the plant and as that absorbs into the soil then the roots get drowned and suffocate because they can't absorb the water fast enough until they drown.

**CONCLUSION:** In our experiment things did not turn out the way that we had expected. When we had originally thought that the droughts were going to do the worst, then the floods, and then the controls. Instead though the droughts were the worst but then the controls did not do the best, so overall the floods did the best out of all of them. We think that this happened because the school had a problem with the facilities and we could not water them for over a week. This caused the droughts to dry out even more and the controls to start to dry out, the floods which had been almost constantly wet had now reached a good amount of water for them and started to recover from their previous almost dying state. The data supports our claim because in our graph it shows that droughts went down the whole time, the control went up and down, and the floods did very well overall. This does not support our old claim, where the controls did the best, then the floods, and lastly the droughts, but it does support our new one where we said that the floods did the best, then the controls, and lastly the droughts. Future experiments that could include redoing this without the interruption of the school problems, another one would be doing this on a larger scale with more data, and doing the project for a longer amount of time until we got lots of data. In conclusion, through things such as the school having problems, having the wrong idea to begin with, and learning new things about plants we have gained knowledge and experience that will be useful later in life.

#### **MARCH 4TH:**

We planted our onion and radish seeds after we soaked the soil. We had 6 pots. Onion control, flood, and drought, and radish control, flood, and drought. We labeled them and put them on a tray to drain.

**MARCH 5TH:** We did the same as yesterday because we forgot to plant two of each.



