Does sugar cause pop to sink?

Hypothesis - Sugar will cause that pop to be heavier and sink because it has a weight of 34 grams on the can

Materials

1- tank

Fill the tank full of water

5- pop cans (full) Reg coke, Diet coke, Diet pepsi

Grape Pop

Sparkling water

- At least 18 pack of sugar

<u>Procedures-</u> Fill the tank full of water, at room temp. Then add the pop cans in, at one at a time. Record which can sinks or floats.

Observation - Reg coke, grape pop sank and the diet coke, diet pepsi and sparkling water floated.

Conclusion - Is that the drinks that contain sugar will sink and the drinks that are diet (no sugar) will float.

Variables in Science Experiments

A <u>variable</u> is any factor, trait, or condition that can exist in differing amounts or types.

An experiment usually has three kinds of variables:

1) independent, 2) dependent, and 3) controlled.

1) Independent variable is the one that is changed by the scientist.

Why just one? Well, if you changed more than one variable it would be hard to figure out which change is causing what you observe.



For example, what if our scientific question was:

"How does the size of a dog affect how much food it eats?"; then, during your feeding experiments you changed both the size of the dog and the time of day the dogs were fed. The data might get a bit confusing — did the larger dog eat less food than the smaller dog because of his size or because it was the middle of the day and dogs prefer to eat more in the morning? Sometimes it is impossible to just change one variable, and in those cases, scientists rely on more-complicated mathematical analysis and additional experiments to try to figure out what is going on.

2) <u>Dependent variables</u> are the things that the scientist focuses his or her observations on to see how they respond to the change made to the independent variable. MEASURE

In our dog example, the dependent variable is how much the dogs eat. This is what we are observing and measuring. It is called the "dependent" variable because we are trying to figure out whether its value depends on the value of the independent variable. If there is a direct link between the two types of variables (independent and dependent) then you may be uncovering a cause and effect relationship. The number of dependent variables in an experiment varies, but there can be more than one.



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