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Junior Chemistry
Fruit Power

The purpose of the experiment was to determine the amount of ethylene gas produced by fruits in different size containers. We gathered materials, cut up bananas and limes and place them in four bottles and capped them with balloons. These were placed on the counter with room temperature and florescent lighting. For 8 days we recorded data and photographed the bottles daily. The balloons on the bottles with bananas expanded with ethylene gas, while the balloons on the lime bottles had the opposite effect.(The balloons sucked into the bottles vs. expanding outside). The smaller bottle balloon expanded faster than the larger bottles. We have concluded that our hypothesis on the bananas was correct, but we didn't expect the balloons on the lime bottles to suck inward. The test results indicate that if you are trying to make bananas last longer, supply a bigger space so the gases can easily escape.