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*Snail Lightning: The Effect of Water Temperature on Snail Speed*

The purpose of this project was to see what type of water temperature a snail would like. We thought it would be interesting to find out what water temperature makes snails go fastest. The experiment involved our snails, which we named Blaze, Snail and Crown; one large glass tub; one marked circular racing track; water; ice; a microwave; a sink; a thermometer; a timer; and a laptop to record the data. We started by filling the glass tub with water and then we put the thermometer in to determine the temperature. Then we gathered the snails and put them in the water for one minute. We then took them out of the water and placed them on the five-one centimeter line on the race track. We left them alone for nine minutes, making sure not to bump the track or do anything to alarm the snails. Then we recorded the data of the distance they had traveled in those nine minutes. We then divided that distance by nine to determine how far the snails traveled in one minute. We repeated this experiment with three trials for each water temperature. The data collected supported the original hypothesis. The snails traveled 0.18 centimeters per minute after being soaked in cold water for one minute; 0.26 centimeters per minute after being soaked in the room temperature water for one minute; and 1.33 centimeters per minute after being soaked in warm water for one minute. These findings lead us to believe that warm water awakens the snails better and gives them energy, whereas cold water seems to put them to sleep and they seem to rather dislike it.