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*Radon Me!*

The purpose of this investigation was to see if the location of a house affected the level of radon in the home. Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer, after smoking. We believed that radon levels in a home would be greater for houses located on a hill, as opposed to those located on flatter land. Our motivation was that Cassidy Jones' great grandma had high levels of radon in her house she was selling.

We placed store bought radon detectors in 3 different areas of La Junta, Colorado (three houses in each location.) We waited 48 hours, then collected the radon detectors and mailed them off for analysis. Once the test results came back we figured out the average level of radon in each area to see if there were differences.

The data collected partially supported the original hypothesis. The Carson locations (area 3) had the highest level of radon, an average of 6.5 pCi/L. The Smithland location (area 1) had the second highest level of radon, an average of 5.8 pCi/L. The San Juan location (area 2) had the lowest level of radon, an average of 5.4 pCi/L.

Even though the Carson location was the highest leveled area, all were in close range of one another and all were over the recommended level of 4.0 pCi/L. There was not a big difference between the locations. These findings lead us to believe that the location in a small town does not make a difference in radon levels.