

Autumn Brown
Algae and Oxygen: What Are the Effects?

The purpose for doing this experiment is to determine how the oxygen levels would affect fish population. Fish thrive in areas with high oxygen levels. My experiment shows how algae affect those areas. If you see the algae I tested in ponds you will know not to fish there because certain algae lowers oxygen levels. Therefore, there won't be very many fish in that area because they can't breathe. My hypothesis was that the more the algae grew, the more the oxygen levels would decrease. I first had to culture the algae when it arrived. Then I took the algae and put it in the pond water that I collected and tested for oxygen levels after a certain number of hours. My data showed that over a three day period the algae decreased oxygen levels an average of 6.3 milligrams per liter. My data contributes to environmental science by showing how algae can affect the fish population in certain areas. My hypothesis was supported because the oxygen levels did decrease while the algae increased.