

Cassandra Clark & Shyann Hicks
What's Melting?

The purpose of this investigation was to see which food product, chocolate, cheese, butter, or a marshmallow, would melt the fastest under a 100 watt light bulb. We hypothesized that the 1/2 inch thick piece of butter would melt the fastest.

The experiment involved wrapping a cardboard box and a plate in tin-foil. A 100 watt light bulb was then set 1, 2, and 3 inches above what we were melting. We then watched and recorded what happened and how long it took.

The data we collected did not support our original hypothesis. The piece of chocolate melted the fastest. The times for the chocolate were recorded: 6 minutes and 52 seconds at 1 inch away, 7 minutes and 53 seconds at 2 inches away, and 8 minutes and 24 seconds at 3 inches away. The order of the other foods are cheese in second, butter in third, and the marshmallow in fourth.

These findings led us to believe that a light bulb can melt food products just like a microwave or oven can, if it is bright and hot enough. It also led us to believe that a square of chocolate melts the fastest out of all the foods we tested.