

DETECTING STARCH

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Goal

Apply a technique to determine if a food or a solution contains starch.

Materials

- 2 test tubes (15 mm × 125 mm)
- test-tube rack
- marker
- dropper bottle of distilled water
- dropper bottle of starch solution
- dropper bottle of Lugol's solution

Procedure



1. Number the test tubes 1 and 2 with the marker.
2. Add 20 drops of distilled water to test tube 1.
3. Add 20 drops of starch solution to test tube 2.
4. Add 6 drops of Lugol's solution to each test tube.
5. Observe the contents of the test tubes and record your observations.
6. Clean up and put away materials.

Results

Record your observations in the table below. Give the table a title.

Title:

Test tube	Substances in test tube	Observations



Name: _____ Group: _____ Date: _____

Reflecting on the lab technique

1. What indicator is used to detect starch?

2. How can the presence of starch in a food or a solution be confirmed using this indicator?

3. Why is a test tube containing only distilled water and the indicator prepared?

4. Are the results you obtained conclusive? If not, what are the possible sources of error?

