

Name: _____

Exploring pH

Instructions: Using the pH papers provided, find and measure the pH of each of the following household items. Record the pH's you find on this worksheet, and bring it with you to class next week.

The best way to measure the pH is to use a small utensil to place a drop of liquid onto a test paper resting on a shallow glass dish or paper towel. Try to saturate at least ½” of the strip, then read the color after a few seconds. Use a clean toothpick each time, or rinse and dry the utensil each time. Be careful not to contaminate the strips with your fingerprints!



Hints:

- (a) If the stuff you are going to measure has a strong color of its own (so that it interferes with being able to read the color of the paper), be careful to only use a little, and you can also try diluting it with water. But if you dilute it, try to be precise (for example, ten teaspoons of water per one teaspoon of sample). Every ten-fold dilution changes the pH by one unit.
- (b) For solid materials, be sure to carefully record the dilution in water. For example, “one level teaspoon of baking soda per cup of water.”

Item	Details: How did you measure it? What brand? What dilution(s)?	Observed pH Value
Tap water		
Filtered Tap Water		
Milk		
Fruit Juice		
Ketchup		
Mayonnaise		
Vinegar		
Pepsi / Coke		
Your Spit		
Your Pee		
Your Tears <i>(try using an onion!)</i>		
Your Fingerprints		
Laundry Detergent		
Bleach		
Ammonia		

