

NAME _____

DATE _____

Light Bulb Or Heat Bulb Experiment: Lesson 1

Purpose: To compare an incandescent light bulb to a LED light bulb

Materials:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 IL—Incandescent light bulb | 2 “house” boxes |
| 1 LED—Light Emitting Diode bulb | 2 thermometers |
| 2 lamp bases | stopwatch or timer |

Hypothesis:

Before starting the experiment, answer each question by circling the answer on the LEFT side of the chart in the **BEFORE** column.

At the completion of the experiment, you will answer the questions again on the RIGHT side of the chart in the **AFTER** column.

*LED= Light Emitting Diode bulb; IL=Incandescent Light bulb

Before	Question	After
LED IL	Which bulb will get hotter?	LED IL
LED IL	Which bulb will use more electricity?	LED IL
LED IL	Which bulb is more energy efficient?	LED IL

Procedure:

1. Observe each light bulb. Sketch and record their physical characteristics. Be very careful with the bulbs. Do not shake them.

Observations (Physical Characteristics—What do you see?)

LED	Incandescent

2. Put a light bulb in each house. Close the roof. Insert a thermometer through a small opening in the roof or floor making sure it does not touch the light bulb.
3. Record the starting temperature on the data table.
4. At the same time, turn on both light bulbs and start the timer. After one minute take the temperature of each house. Repeat every minute.
5. At the end of 5 minutes, take the final temperature reading and record on the data table. Turn off both light bulbs.

Light Bulb Data Table:

Time (minutes)	Temperature of LED °F	Temperature of Incandescent Light Bulb °F
0 minute Starting Temperature		
1 minute		
2 minutes		
3 minutes		
4 minutes		
5 minutes Final Temperature		

6. Now, Let's do the math! Calculate the change in temperature for each light bulb.

	Temperature of LED °F	Temperature of Incandescent Light Bulb °F
Final Temperature		
Starting Temperature		
Change in Temperature (ΔT) Final Temp - Starting Temp = Change in Temp		

Science Journal Questions:

1. Do the results of the experiment support your hypothesis?
2. What characteristics do the light bulbs have in common?
3. How do the light bulbs differ?
4. Energy efficiency is the use of technology that requires less energy to do the same job. Explain which bulb is more energy efficient.
5. Which bulb is truly a HEAT bulb and not a light bulb?