

[In response to a question about an experiment in photosynthesis on light quality.]

I did a similar experiment last year using light filters and Hill Reaction Assay using DPIP. I really liked it!

For filters, I used theatre lighting gels. If you have a theatre department, you might be to borrow or purchase the filters from them. Or you should be able to contact a theatre supply store in the area. Either place should have a list of the gels available and the wavelength that is transmitted. There may be thousands to choose from! I had tried dissolving food coloring in the heat sink, and did not have as much success with that, although I know that people have used this method.

For a light source, I purchased simple clamp lamps from a hardware store. If you are trying to manipulate light intensity as well, here's a neat trick: A few years ago, I purchased "IQ Smart Lighting Dimmer Bulbs" (made by Phillips?) The each time you turned the switch, the bulb cycled through 3 different light intensities. This was nice since it let students run different intensities with the same lamp without having to reach in and change a hot bulb.

Hope that information helps!

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