

Investigation 5.C: The Rate of Photosynthesis Answer Key

Answers to Analysis Questions

1. Your graph should illustrate a curve that starts slowly and gradually and then rises sharply as photosynthesis proceeds more rapidly due to light exposure.
2. Look at the y -axis and use the mid-point (5 leaf disks) to make your estimate.
3. The air was removed by infiltrating the spaces with sodium bicarbonate solution. The result is that air is removed from the spaces, which allows the leaves to sink to the bottom of the beaker.

Answer to Conclusion Questions

4. The variable tested was the effect of white light on oxygen production.
5. The leaf disks should start to float after being exposed to white light due to the production of oxygen gas, a product of the light-dependent reactions, which collects in chambers within the plant leaf.