## **Oil and Natural Gas Lab**

Materials: lettuce (iceberg), measuring cup, baggies, refrigerator, markers, thermometer

Goal: Replicate some (but not all) aspects of oil and natural gas formation.

## Pre-Lab questions (based on prior knowledge):

1) What are some conditions required for there to be oil or natural gas production in the earth?

2) Approximately how long does it take oil to form?

## **Procedure:**

1) Measure two cups of lightly crushed iceberg lettuce.

2) Place one cup of lettuce in a ziplock bag and label the bag "warm." Place the other cup of lettuce in a ziplog back labeled "cold."

3) Distribute the lettuce along the bottom of each bag and roll the bags from the bottom to remove as much air as possible. Seal each bag.

4) Unroll and observe each bag now and each day for the next two weeks. See the "observations" lab sheet.

5) Place the bag labeled "cold" in a refrigerator.

6) Note the temperature of the refrigerator and room.

Day Number	Warm Bag Observations	Cold Bag Observations

## **Post- Lab questions:**

1) What conditions required for oil or natural gas to form are being reproduced in this lab? *Which conditions are not*?

- 2) What changes did you observe?
- 3) What do you expect caused these changes?

4) Was there any difference between the "warm" and "cold" bag? How do you think this relates to oil and natural gas formation?