



MAKING RED CABBAGE INDICATOR

You are going to try to make an acid-alkali indicator from red cabbage, and possibly some other plants.

Apparatus

Red cabbage	Boiling tube
Kettle	2 test tubes
Pestle & mortar	Hydrochloric acid
Filter funnel	Sodium hydroxide
Filter paper	Test tube rack

Safety



- Wear eye protection
- The water will be hot
- The acid and alkali are irritants

Method

- Collect some pieces of red cabbage.
- Place the red cabbage in a pestle and mortar and carefully add hot water from a kettle.
- Grind up the red cabbage until the water has a strong colour to show a lot of red cabbage juice has dissolved in the water.
- Carefully filter the red cabbage juice through filter paper and funnel into a boiling tube.
- Place a small amount of hydrochloric acid in a test tube and add some of the red cabbage indicator. Record the colour.
- Place a small amount of sodium hydroxide solution in a test tube and add some of the red cabbage indicator. Record the colour.
- You may get to make some other indicators from other plants (e.g. blackberries, beetroot, bluebells (not English), etc.).



Results

Record your results in a suitable table.