

SMALL-SCALE LAB: Radioactivity and Half-Lives

Laboratory Recordsheet

Use with Section 25.2

SAFETY

Use safe and proper laboratory procedures.

PURPOSE

To simulate the transformation of a radioactive isotope over time and to graph the data and relate it to radioactive decay and half-lives.

MATERIALS

- pencil
- penny
- graph paper
- ruler
- paper

PROCEDURE

For trial number 1, flip a penny 100 times and in Figure A, record the total number of heads that result. Now flip the penny the same number of times as the number of heads that you obtained in the first 100 flips. Record the total number of flips and the number of heads that result. Continue this procedure until you obtain no more heads. Record all your data in Figure A.

Trial #	Number of flips	Number of heads
1	100	
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		

Figure A