Name	Date



Decomposition of Hydrogen Peroxide:

Background: When a compound decomposes it breaks down into the substances that were combined. In this lab, you will use a catalyst to breakdown Hydrogen peroxide into its element parts—hydrogen and oxygen. You can prove the presence of the gas products by relighting a splint.

Purpose: To investigate a decomposition reaction using liver as a catalyst to speed up the breakdown of peroxide.

Hypothesis: What will happen when raw liver is added to a test tube of hydrogen peroxide?

Procedures:

- 1. Wear Safety Goggles and follow all safety rules.
- 2. Measure 10ml of Hydrogen Peroxide into small graduated cylinder
- 3. Choose a piece of beef liver and put into a small beaker
- 4. Make observations before reaction of both peroxide and liver
- 5. One student record the temperature of peroxide before reaction
- 6. Put liver into graduated cylinder
- 7. One student record the temperature of reaction every 30 seconds
- 8. Make observations during the reaction
- 9. After lab is complete clean up station and return to your seat and complete questions

Data:

Physical properties of peroxide	Physical Properties of liver	Chemical Properties Observed
BEFORE reaction:	BEFORE reaction:	DURING the reaction:
Temperature of the peroxide		
BEFORE reaction:		

Time in seconds	Temperature in degrees Celsius
0	
30	
60	
90	
120	
150	
180	

Conclusion Questions:

- 1) What purpose did the liver serve in the lab?
- 2) Why did the temperature begin to drop toward the end of the reaction?
- 3) What did the sparking splint prove?
- 4) What were the signs of a chemical reaction (change) occurring?
- 5) Is the equation for the lab balanced?

$$2 H_2O_2 + \text{liver catalyst} \longrightarrow 2 H_2O + O_2 + \text{liver catalyst}$$

- 6) Do you think the size, shape, or mass of the liver had any effect on the reaction?
- 7) When did the highest temperature occur? What else was happening at this time? (gas bubbles or not, splint relit or not, . . .) So therefore, the reaction was endothermic or exothermic?