# FFL Principle 4- The Power of “Mulch” UF CPETUF CPET

# Mulch Moisture Investigation Lab Report

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Question: *Which mulch type best helps soil retain moisture?***

**Hypothesis: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

## Materials:

- 4 Pots with equal soil  
 - Pine Bark  
 - Pine Needles  
 - Rock/Gravel  
 - Water  
 - Ruler or Moisture Meter

## Procedure:

1. Add the same amount of soil to each pot.  
 2. Add mulch: one pot each with pine bark, pine needles, rocks, and no mulch.  
 3. Water each pot with the same amount.  
 4. Place pots in the sun.  
 5. Measure and record soil moisture over 3 days.

## Data Table:

| ***Mulch Type*** | ***Day 1 Moisture*** | ***Day 2 Moisture*** | ***Day 3 Moisture*** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *None* |  |  |  |
| *Pine Needles* |  |  |  |
| *Pine Bark* |  |  |  |
| *Rock/Gravel* |  |  |  |

**Conclusion: What did you learn? Which mulch worked best and why?**

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