Name: _____ Date: _____

Carbon Capture Worksheet 1

Learning Lab®

Tea Testing

Date tea bags were buried: _____

Date tea bags were removed from soil: _____

1. Complete the table below to describe both teabags after they have been buried in damp soil and waterlogged soil.

Instruction	Damp Soil	Waterlogged Soil
Draw the teabag		
Describe the teabag in words		
How does the teabag feel?		
Is the teabag coming apart?		
How does the pot of soil smell?		
Did anything else happen while the teabags were still buried e.g. bubbles in the soil, or plants growing?		

If something is a fertiliser, it can be used to help new plants grow because it releases important nutrients into the soil around the plant. These nutrients are taken in by the plant.

2. Old teabags can be used as a fertiliser. Why do you think this is?

When dead plants fall onto soil, they normally start to break down, or decay. This happens thanks to bugs and bacteria, which need oxygen to breathe.

When plants die on waterlogged soil, this stops them from fully decaying.

3. Why do you think plants don't decay as quickly in waterlogged soil?

When plants don't fully decay, some carbon dioxide stays trapped within the plant. When this keeps happening over thousands of years, those dead plants build up in layers, creating the peatlands that we have today.

4. If water is removed from peatlands, what could happen to the partially decomposed plants that have built up over time?