

Name:

## Pill Bug Behavior

### Observations

In this activity you will be working with terrestrial isopods commonly known as “pillbugs”, “sowbugs”, or “roly-polys”. These organisms are members of the Phylum Arthropoda, Class Crustacea, which also includes shrimp and crabs. Most members of this group respire through gills.

Working with your partners, make a list of observations about the organism that you will be working with.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
10. (Continue to add observations. Get as many as you can).

## **Experimental Method**

**Task** – Your task is to design an experiment to test the environmental factors you believe may determine where pillbugs live. Your instructor will demonstrate a “choice chamber” for use in your experiment. **All of the following must be done on a separate sheet of paper.**

1. Select your factor(s) and develop a hypothesis concerning the pillbug's response to the factor. Write your hypothesis.
2. Use a choice chamber to design an experiment.
  - a. State the objective of your experiment.
  - b. Describe your materials and procedure.
3. Decide what data you will collect and design your data sheet.
4. Conduct your experiment. After the experiment is completed, return the pillbugs to the stock culture.
5. Make a graphical representation of your data (on graph paper) that will help to visualize or interpret the data.
6. Describe your results and conclusions.