

## Explorations

### Salinity

Outdoor tanks can have their salinity affected by rain. Does this affect the growth rate of eelgrass?

Monitor the salinity on your data sheet each day on your data sheet.

To measure growth rate, thread a string between a healthy outer leaf and a growing inner leaf (at the same height), then cut the string between them, you can measure the distance between the two strings each day.

Choose a few plants to do this to, and measure the distances each time you measure salinity. Calculate the average distance and record this in the observations column on your data sheet.

Make a graph of salinity over time, and growth over time. (make sure the time increments on the graph are uniform)

1. Do you see a relationship?
2. What represents growth rate from this graph? (A: *slope of the growth line*)
3. If the growth line is straight, does salinity affect growth rate?
4. If the slope of the growth line increases or decreases, is there a relationship between salinity and growth rate?
5. What else might be affecting growth rate?