

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

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

Lab Partner: \_\_\_\_\_ (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Blk: \_\_\_\_\_

Chemistry 11  
Separating Matter Lab

**Objective:**

To devise a detailed scheme to separate a mechanical mixture that contains approximately:

3.00 g Plastic beads, 5.00 g Coarse Salt and 5.00 g Iron Fillings.

**Materials:**

You will need to come up with a list of all the materials necessary for separating the above solids, it is a requirement that the mass of the recovered solids be recorded.

**Procedure:** (must be in a flow chart format)

Write out a detailed procedure for the separation techniques that you will use to separate the three solids:

1. Iron
2. Salt
3. Plastic beads

**Data and Observations:**

You must create your own **data table** to record the before and after mass values for each component in the mixture.

**Analysis:**

1. Produce two separate pie charts that show the “before” and “after” the percent composition (individual masses ÷ sum of masses) of the mixture, be sure to label the “wedges”.
2. Using the mass values of each solid that you “recovered” calculate the Percent Yield of each solid.

$$\text{Percent Yield} = \text{mass recovered} \div \text{mass used}$$

3. Suppose a lab group reports a percent yield of 115% sand, is it really possible to collect more sand than was originally present? What is a possible explanation for such a high yield?
4. Suppose a lab group reports a percent yield of 90% salt, what is a possible explanation for the missing product?

**Discussion:**

1. Identify the following type of mixtures that were present/or created in this lab:
  - a. heterogeneous
  - b. homogeneous
2. Explain how you used the different physical properties of the materials involved to separate the three solids.

**Sources of Error:**

List only the equipment you used to record quantitative data for

**Conclusion:**

Be sure to include your calculated Percent Yields for each solid and an explanation for why you reached these values. No lab report is complete without a connection between the lab and everyday life!