

C. elegans and Alcohol

Grade Level: 5 – 12 Age Range: 10 – 18 Lesson Length: 1 - 2 classes



C. elegans is a free-living nematode. It is small—growing to about 1 mm in length—and lives in the soil (especially in rotting vegetation) where it survives by feeding on microbes such as bacteria. Students design, conduct, and analyze a controlled experiment testing the effects of alcohol on the roundworm *C. elegans*.

[Chemotaxis using *C. elegans*](#) is referenced in this lesson which is an excellent follow-up to the Chemotaxis lesson.

This 9-minute video shows the life cycle and reproduction of *C. elegans* in graphical representations as well as footage of the worms under a microscope. The presentation is split into 6 sections and you can jump directly to the section you're interested in. www.jove.com/science-education/5110/caenorhabditis-elegans-development-and-reproduction

For culturing *C. elegans*, see Laboratory 2 and 3 at www.silencinggenomes.org