

Blood Lab

Tests: Is it Blood?

In order to test if a substance is actually blood, there are tests that can be performed using various chemicals.

- Luminol*: short uv, spray samples to see fluorescence
- Kastle- Meyer reagent** + 3 % H₂O₂:
 - Wet filter paper, label with permanent ink or pencil
 - Touch stain to wet filter paper to transfer the substance to be tested
 - Add 2 drops of Kastle- Meyer reagent
 - Add 2 drops of fresh 3 % hydrogen peroxide
 - Observe color change will be pink in the presence of real blood
- Ninhydrin solution

Set up samples of white cloth and white paper towels with ketchup, Tabasco sauce, worcestershire sauce, BBQ sauce, red food dye and real steak or beef blood from the butcher.

*Luminol: 1.0 g luminal + .5 g Na₂CO₃ dissolved in 100 ml of distilled water, then add 0.7 g sodium perborate or 0.9 g potassium iodate.

** Kastle- Meyer reagent - This is a reduced phenolphthalein solution. KOH, phenolphthalein and Zinc. After dissolved add ethanol to 500 ml store in a brown bottle in the refrigerator.

Lab: "Blood Typing" (used an ABO Rh kit from Flinn Scientific)