

Logbook - Katie King

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I wrote my conclusion:

My experiment did not verify my hypothesis. I thought that the metal foil would provide the best insulation because I know metal heats up and is used for cooking. Instead the best insulator (i.e., the substance that kept the water warm the longest) was the polystyrene . With the polystyrene, it took 57 minutes for the temperature to decrease to room temperature (18°C). The next best insulator was the cardboard (47 minutes), then the metal foil (16 minutes). The temperature of the water in the beaker without any insulation decreased to room temperature the fastest (10 minutes).

If I wanted to keep coffee, hot chocolate, or tea hot, I would use a Styrofoam cup, because polystyrene was the best insulator.

Now, I would like to see if I want to keep something cold for a long time which type of material should I use. It would be interesting to see if Styrofoam is best for that too.