



What alternative of
plastic straws do people
like the most?



Question & Hypothesis

Question: Was what type of straws would be suitable to replace plastic straws ?

Hypothesis: If I give sugarcane, bamboo, paper, compostable straws to people to try, then people will like compostable the best.

Background Research

Plastic is everywhere. It's in our oceans, wrapped around animals, in our food, in our homes, and in our bodies. We use plastic for many purposes, but when we make and dispose of plastic, it pollutes our environment. Plastic takes a long time to break down. Plastic causes climate change. Microplastics are found in our oceans and food. Plastic harms wildlife. There are many things that we use every day made of plastic that could be made of something else. Lots of people want to have paper or metal straws instead of plastic. Most of the time it doesn't happen. In this project, we will find alternatives to plastic straws and test which work the best and are most likely to be used by more people. Fewer plastic straws will reduce the amount of plastic in the environment. This will help reduce climate change and global pollution, and help us consume less microplastics in our food, which will potentially help with our health.

Materials & Procedure

Materials

- Bamboo straws
- Paper straws
- Sugarcane straws
- Compostable straws
- 4 paper cups
- Water

Procedure

It was a blind experiment. The first thing is to put the straws in water and let them sit in it for 24 hours

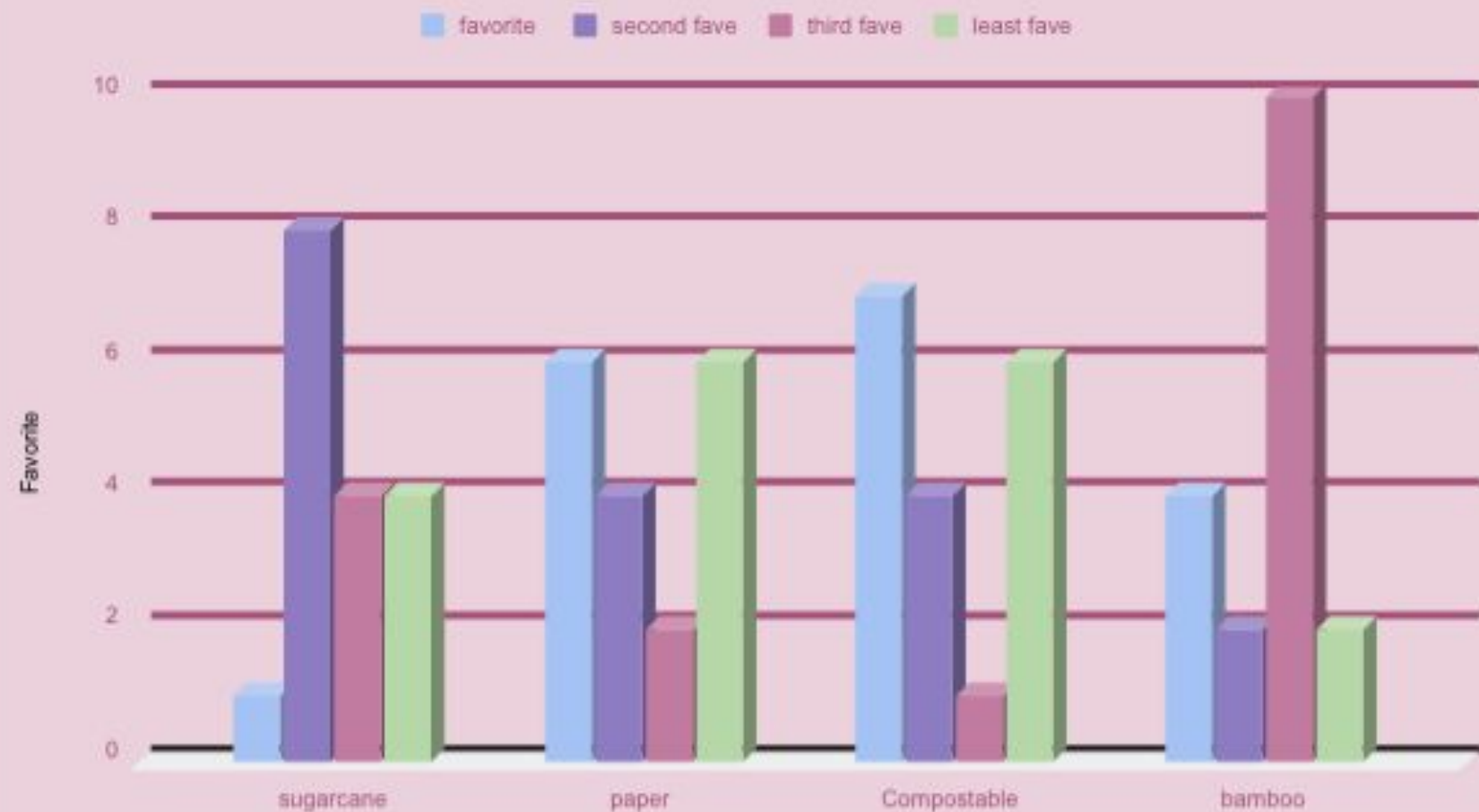
The second thing is to blindfold people and ask them to rate the straw 1-4 . Four being the worst and one being the best . The test subjects were not told which straw was which .

Data, Graphs, and Results

The graph shows the favorite straws of our participants.

Each person had to rate the straws on a scale of 1-4, with 4 being the worst and 1 being the best. The data shows that the favorite straw was the compostable, and the least favorite is sugarcane.

favorite , second fave, third fave and least fave



Conclusion

Our project was “what is the best alternative to plastic straws”?

Our hypothesis was: If I give compostable, bamboo, paper, and sugarcane straws to people to try, then people will like sugarcane straws the best. Our hypothesis was incorrect, as most participants favored the compostable straws. The first step was to see what straw lasts the longest in water over 24 hours. The second step was to blindfold the people that you are testing, then they tested each straw, rating them best to least. We could have added metal straws and collected data more efficiently. The next step could possibly be adding more straws have a wider range of data. After testing each person, we asked them if they had any feedback on why they chose what they did. The people who chose compostable as their favorite said that the compostable straw felt most normal and familiar to them.

References

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