## Comparing the Electromagnetic Spectrum Wavelengths

**Directions**: Copy down the purpose and answer all questions in this inquiry. Remember to include part of the question into your answer.

## **Background Information:**

Electromagnetic Spectrum – The range of electromagnetic waves placed in a certain order.



Purpose: How do the different types of waves in the electromagnetic spectrum compare to each other?

## **Procedures**:

- 1. Get a sheet of graph paper from the teacher.
- 2. You will need 7 different colored pencils.
- 3. Turn the graph paper sideways, so that it is longer that it is higher.
- 4. Number the intervals on the X-axis by 1's. (From 1 35)
- 5. Title the X axis "relative wavelength"
- 6. Number the intervals on the Y-axis by 1's. (From 1 30)
- 7. Label the Y-axis "relative wave height"
- 8. Using one of the colored pencils, plot the points using the Gamma Rays Height (Y-axis) and Relative wavelength (X-axis).
- 9. Write a Title for this graph at the top of the page.
- 10. Connect the dots to create a line graph.
- 11. Continue this process of graphing the different Wave Heights vs. the wavelengths of all the 7 waves from the data table below, use a different colored pencil for each of the 7 different waves.

## Analyzing the Data:

- 1. How long was the Gamma Rays wavelength?
- 2. How long was the X- Rays wavelength?
- 3. How long was the Ultraviolet wavelength?
- 4. How long was the Visible Light wavelength?
- 5. How long was the Infrared wavelength?
- 6. How long was the Microwave wavelength?
- 7. How long was the Radio Waves wavelength?
- 8. Describe the relationship between wavelength and energy within the electromagnetic spectrum if a radio wave has less energy than a gamma wave.(include both the words energy & wavelength in your answer)
- 9. Which has more energy Ultraviolet wave or Infrared waves?
- 10. What portion of the electromagnetic spectrum (graph) has the shortest wavelength?
- 11. What portion of the electromagnetic spectrum has the longest wavelength?
- 12. What portion of the electromagnetic spectrum (graph) has most energy?
- 13. How do you know?
- 14. What portion of the electromagnetic spectrum has the least amount of energy?
- 15. How do you know?
- 16. What has more energy a Visible Light wave or an Infrared wave?
- 17. What has more energy a x-ray or Microwave?
- 18. Describe a pattern that you see in this graph.

Go to the website and answer the bottom questions. Of the website:

http://earthguide.ucsd.edu/eoc/special topics/teach/sp climate change/p emspectrum interactive. html

Slide the GREAN TRIANGLE to see different amounts of energy and wavelengths

What are the differences between the different types of electromagnetic radiation?

- 1. Which has a longer wavelength visible or infrared radiation?
- Which contains more energy visible or infrared radiation?
  Which has a higher frequency visible or infrared radiation?
- 4. About how fast do all EM waves move?
- 5. Do EM waves transmit energy or mass?

Relative	Gamma	X-Rays	Ultra-	Visible	Infra-	Micro-	Radio
Wave-	Ravs		violet	Light	Red	Waves	Waves
Length	5			0			
1	26	22	18	14	10	6	2
2	29		10	11	10	0	
3	26	25					
4	29		21				
5	26	22		17			
6	29				13		
7	26	25	18			9	
8	29						5
9	26	22		14			
10	29		21				
11	26	25			10		
12	29						
13	26	22	18	17		6	
14	29						
15	26	25					2
16	29		21		13		
17	26	22		14			
18	29						
19	26	25	18			9	
20	29				1.0		
21	26	22		17	10		
22	29	25	21				5
23	26	25					
24	29	22	10	14		(	
25	26	22	18	14	10	6	
20	29	25			13		
27	20	25	21				
20	29	22	21	17			2
30	20			17			<u> </u>
30	26	25	18		10	9	
32	29	23	10		10		
33	26	22		14			
34	29		21	<b>1</b>			
35	26	25					
	<b>v</b>						