

Name: _____ Date: _____ Class/Hour: _____

PRE-INVESTIGATION DISCUSSION

1. Why is it important to express carbohydrate content as a percentage of dry mass?
2. Estimate the carbohydrate content of your biomass sample. What percentage of those carbohydrates do you expect to be water-soluble?
3. Explain why cellulose is water insoluble. Why might that be important for plants?
4. At low absorbance (below 1.50), what is the expected relationship between simple sugar concentration and absorbance?
5. How are biomass streams used to create fermentation products like ethanol?

BIOMASS CARBOHYDRATE COMPOSITION