

Radon Testing: Teacher Answer Key

Name: _____

Date: _____

Home A:



Winter reading	Summer reading
3.5 pCi/L	1.0 pCi/L

Average radon level:

$$3.5 + 1 = 4.5 / 2 = 2.25 \text{ pCi/L}$$

Does this home's radon level need to be fixed? Explain your answer.

Answers may vary. This homeowner may want to consider lowering the indoor radon level, especially since the reading was higher during the winter.

Home B:



Reading during rainy season	Reading during dry, windy weather
5.0 pCi/L	10.0 pCi/L

Average radon level:

$$5 + 10 = 15 / 2 = 7.5 \text{ pCi/L}$$

Does this home's radon level need to be fixed? Explain your answer.

This homeowner should definitely consider lowering the indoor radon level. It is well above EPA's action level of 4 pCi/L or higher.

When testing your home for radon, why is it important to get a year-round average radon level?

Radon levels tend to vary from day to day and season to season. For example, rainfall may slow radon's movement through soil so that less gets into the home. In dry periods radon has an easier time moving to the surface through cracks and crevices. Weather extremes when homes are closed and heat and air conditioning are turned on, or windy weather may lead to a lower pressure in the home which creates a vacuum and draws radon in from a higher pressure area in