

# Worksheet for Basic Polarized Light

Procedure	Observations
Polarized films (2)	
Plasticware	
Mica sheet	
Iceland spar	
Wave retarder	

1. What is the definition of polarization?
2. How does an analyzer work?
3. What do optically active materials do to polarized light passing through them?
4. What are examples of optically active materials?
5. Why might cellophane tape, when viewed through an analyzer, change color?
6. What is birefringence?