



Fecal Matter Experiments

By Christopher McCastle a.k.a. DreamingTurd

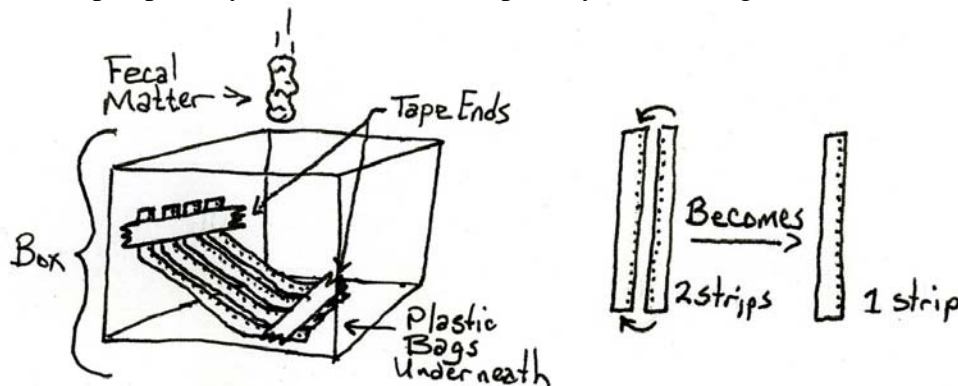
Clear 16mm Film

Effect: I think there may be some difference from one bowel movement to the next as for the color; however, this film came out a wonderful translucent orange-brown.

Supplies: 10 feet of clear leader / Tape / Box / Bleach water / Gloves / 5 plastic grocery sacs / Cloths Pins / Bowel movement.

WARNING: Be careful when working with the poo...search web for safety precautions: <http://www.ehs.berkeley.edu/pubs/factsheets/36fecalmatter.pdf>

Procedure: To make a “shitty” film I used four even length strips of clear leader and a good healthy bowel movement. The way I found best to get the fecal matter onto the clear leader was to position the clear leader at a 45 degree angle and tape each end (see below) in a box and carefully position myself over it. Also, lay down some plastic grocery sacs to catch the run off and have a couple extra to dispose of the waste like cat poo. I chose not to manipulate the fecal matter (not smearing it but simply letting it be as it fell). Then, like slides for a microscope, I pressed two strips together (poop side in / clean side out) which gave me two (four strips become two) strips of film. Finally, I hung the strips up to dry for a week before optically transferring them.



Notes: Fecal matter smells when it's not in the toilet water. Prepare your workspace before you have to “go” so that you can make the most of your experiment. You might want to have a cup or container of sorts to catch any urine (it just seems that the #1 usually accompanies the #2).





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Super 8 Shit

Effect: Again, it may depend on the sample but I got some amazing turquoise, purple, blue, magenta, and brown colors from this experiment. When it's slowed down you can see little fragments of undigested food. It's a lot like looking through a microscope.

Supplies: New color Super 8 film cartridge / E-6 developer / Flat head screw driver / 5 plastic grocery sacs / Rubber gloves / Bleach water / Large cooking pot or stool / Bowel movement

Procedure: Prepare the space in advance (don't wait until you have a "turtle head"). Take a stool or large cooking pot and place two plastic grocery sacs over it (see illustration). Then, release the fecal matter onto the bag. Grab the new super 8 film cartridge and smash it down into the pile so that the exposed film is completely submerged in the poo. You can use any method you want to advance the film (experiment before hand) but just make sure that you can advance it without lifting the cartridge from the pile of crap to avoid exposure to light. I used a flat head screw driver inserted into the sprocket and just twisted it. Also, I found it helpful to etch in arrows on the cartridge as a reminder of which way to advance the film. Finally, develop the film by hand using a reel to reel container.



Notes: The chemicals will be tainted by the fecal matter (especially the first developer) so only use what you need for developing to cut down on waste. I don't know if it's the heat or the chemicals in the poo that makes the pretty colors on the film but I do know that it was worth the mess. Special thanks to Evan for the use of his chemicals.

