

Experiment / Investigation

Congratulations on deciding to do an experiment!

1. Begin your research in several places (books, magazines, the Internet) to find out as much as possible about your topic.
2. State your problem clearly (the purpose).
3. Decide on the hypothesis for your experiment (what you think will happen). Give reasons for your ideas.
4. Plan your experiment in detail.
5. Make a list of materials that you will need for your experiment.
6. Describe a procedure that you will use to carry out your experiment. The procedure will include all the steps in your experiment, the variables that you are going to change, variables that you are going to control, the measurements that you will take and how you will make the measurements.
7. Record your data and do not throw away your rough work!
8. Interpret your data by graphing your results. Look for patterns!
9. Does your data support your hypothesis?
10. Try and explain the results.
11. Be sure to include the following information with your final project:
 - a. Title
 - b. What you wanted to do / find out (purpose)
 - c. Hypothesis
 - d. Procedure
 - e. Pictures and drawings
 - f. Materials
 - g. What you learned (Conclusions)
 - h. Charts and Tables
 - i. Diary / Journal
 - j. Who helped you
 - k. Bibliography

