

Independent Investigation Guidelines

Step 1: Create a Question

- What do you want to find out?
- Does your question relate to the topic?
- Can you develop an experiment to answer your question?
- Does your question make sense? Is it confusing?

Step 2: Hypothesis

- What do you think will happen?
- BE SPECIFIC!
- Use complete sentences.

Step 3: Procedure

- What steps will you follow to find an answer?
 - ✓ BE SPECIFIC! Label your steps using 1, 2, 3, etc.
 - ✓ Would someone else be able to follow your directions?
- How will you collect your data?
- How will you ensure reliable results?
- What safety issues need to be addressed?

Step 4: Experiment & Data

- Be sure to display your data in an organized manner. Use a table or chart to help you show your results. Don't forget to label!
- Include enough data to prove or disprove your hypothesis.

Step 5: Analysis/Conclusion

- What happened during your experiment?
- Did your results support your hypothesis?
- Write a summary of what you learned during your experiment and address your results.
- Explain any unexpected results.
- Are your results reliable?
- Did you use complete sentences?