

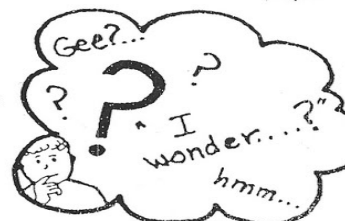
# The Scientific Method

## For Experiments

You will use the scientific method for your science experiments. Just follow the steps below and you won't have any problems.

### 1. Identify a Problem

Think about what area of science interests you. Narrow it down to a project question. The question should be specific and should identify the variables to be studied.

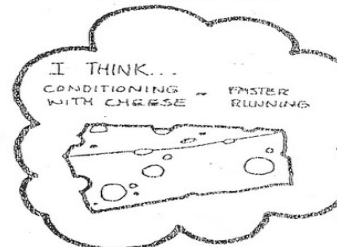


### 2. Collect Information

Research your topic. Go to the library and find information in print and non-print resources. Get information from governmental agencies. Take your own field trip to places that have information in your chosen area.

### 3. Develop a Hypothesis

A hypothesis is an educated guess. It takes into account the research you have done and also your opinion of what will happen. What do you think is going to happen when you perform your experiment? Write a hypothesis that answers the question.



### 4. Conduct an Experiment

First make a list of needed materials and then get your materials. Set up your experiment and observe what happens. Make sure you are only changing one variable. All other conditions must remain constant. Keep a journal recording changes, growth or other results in your experiment. Record all data neatly so you can read it later.

### 5. Draw a Conclusion

Analyze the results of your experiment. Draw a conclusion based on your results. Was your hypothesis correct? Why or why not? Your conclusion should tell what you learned by conducting the experiment and why the experiment is important. Remember, an experiment is not a failure if the hypothesis is proven wrong.

