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# THE SCIENTIFIC METHOD

#### What is the Scientific Method?

The Scientific Method is used by scientists and those who want to come up with a solution to a problem. It is a series of questions used to gather information about the issue and determine a solution. It consists of the following steps:

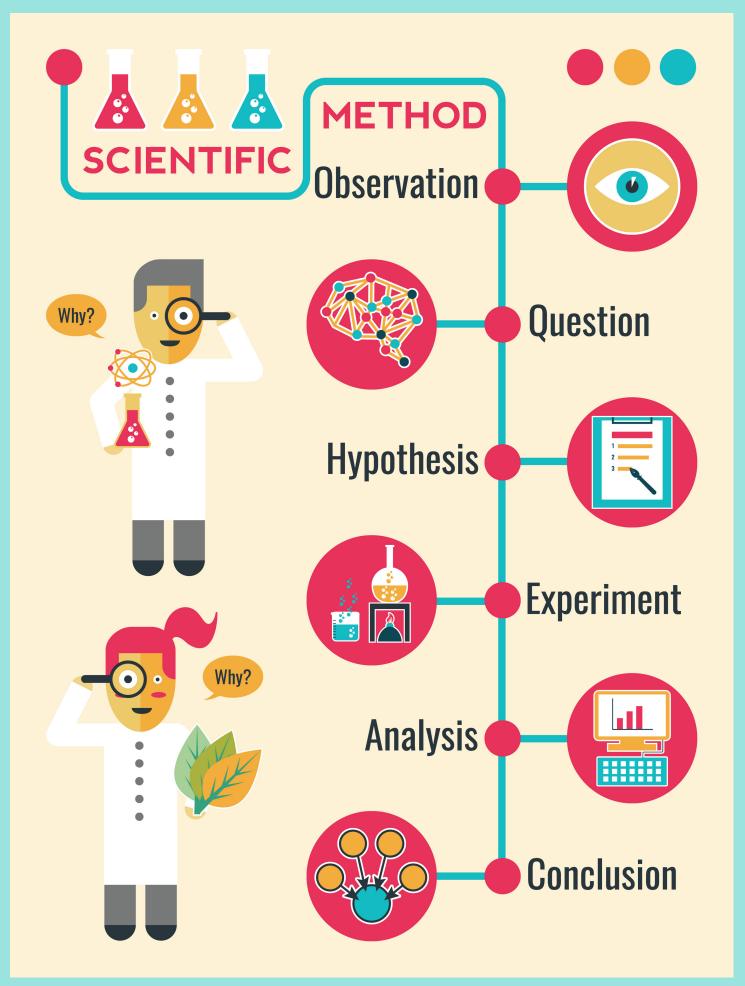
- What have you observed?
- What is your problem or question?
- Make an educated guess to solve the problem.
- Plan an experiment to test your hypothesis.
- Analyze the data you collected from your experiment.
- Conclude if your hypothesis was correct or not.



#### What is a Hypothesis?

A hypothesis is an educated guess. Your hypothesis should be your answer to the question you proposed. A hypothesis is usually an "If, Then" type of statement. For example, "If I lower the temperature of the environment, then the liquid will freeze."

Write a hypothesis that you can prove or disprove with your experiment.



## WORKSHEET

#### Which type of paper burns the fastest?

Use these questions to help you in your fire experiment.

Study the different textures and weights of the papers. What observations can you make?
Which paper do you think will burn the fastest? Why?
Using the answers to the first two questions, state your hypothesis.

# **OBSERVATIONS**

# Record Your Results

As you perform your experiment, record your results in the chart below. Take note of anything unusual or unexpected.

Paper Type	Length of Time to Burn	Observations

### CONCLUSION

#### What did your data prove?

Review your data and your hypothesis.

Did the experiment prove your hypothesis correct?	
Did the experiment disprove your hypothesis?	
Based on your experiment results, what conclusions can you make about the burn rates of paper?	

Additional Worksheets for Future Experiments compliments of Hide The Chocolate and Literary Adventures for Kids
Visit us at www.hidethechocolate.com and www.literaryadventuresforkids.com

### WORKSHEET

### **Define the Problem**

Use these questions to help you in your define your problem and determine a hypothesis

What do I think will be a solution? Why do I believe this to be true?  Using the answers to the first two questions, state your hypothesis in an "If, Then" format.	What question do I want answered? What is the problem?
this to be true?  Using the answers to the first two questions, state your	
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