



How Science Works

Enquiry Help Sheet

STEP 1 – Getting Started

What are you trying to find out?
What could you change (the variables)?
What will you change (independent variable)?
What do you think will happen (hypothesis)? Why?



STEP 2 – Planning and Designing

What are you going to change (independent variable)?
How will you change it?
What things will you keep the same every time (control variables)?
How will you keep them the same?
What will you measure/observe (dependent variable)?
How will you measure it?
How will you make sure your results are reliable?
What equipment will you use?
What preliminary work are you planning to carry out to help you plan your enquiry?
How will you make your enquiry safe?
Produce a plan of what you are going to do for your teacher.



STEP 3 – Carrying Out

How will you make your measurements precise enough?
How will you make your readings accurate?
How will you record your results?
Can you draw a table for recording your results?

STEP 4 – Processing, Analysing, Interpreting and Inferring

Can you draw a graph of your results?
Can you see any patterns in your results?
Explain your results.
What can you conclude from your enquiry?



STEP 5 – Evaluation

Were your results what you expected? If not, why?
Were there any results that didn't fit the pattern (outliers/anomalies)?
How could this have happened?
Were your results reliable?
Did you make sure you kept everything the same every time? How?
Did you make sure your measurements were accurate and precise each time? How?
How could you improve your enquiry?
What further enquiries would you like to carry out?



STEP 6 – Communicating

How will you report your enquiry so that others could repeat what you did.