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Date:
Hour:

The Scientific Method Practice Worksheet

(Created by Mrs. Bock)

Now it's your turn to practice following the steps of the scientific method. Look at the pictures. Pick one that makes you ask a question about it then fill in the needed information below. This is imaginary, so be creative!

1. Asking a Question: (What is your question? Remember, it must be testable) _____
   _____

2. Developing a Hypothesis: (Write your hypothesis using the "if . . . then" format) _____
   _____
   _____

3. Designing an Experiment: (How will you test your question? Make sure you include materials and the steps of the procedure) _____
   _____
   _____
   _____
   _____
   _____
   _____
   _____

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4. Collecting and Interpreting Data: (What data would you collect? How would you try to understand the meaning of the data?) _____

5. Drawing a Conclusion: (Based on your data, you discovered that your hypothesis was not proven correct. How could you change your experiment or what question would you now ask?) _____

6. Communicating: (How would you tell people about your experiment and result?)

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Example:

1. Asking a Question: What type of food would an ant pick to carry home?

2. Developing a Hypothesis: If a piece of watermelon, a piece of hamburger, a potato chip, and a piece of cookie are left out, then an ant would pick the cookie to carry home.

3. Designing an Experiment:

   Materials: 1 piece of watermelon
   1 piece of hamburger
   1 potato chip
   1 piece of cookie
   An ant in a jar

   Steps:
   1. Lay out the food items on the ground. Make sure they are close to one another.
   2. Let the ant out of the jar, near the food.
   3. Watch to see what the ant does. Record results.
   4. Pick up the remaining food and discard.

4. Collecting and Interpreting Data: The results are based on observation. The food item picked would be what the ant would carry home.

5. Drawing a Conclusion: The hypothesis was proven incorrect. The experiment could be changed to several ants choosing the food and observing which piece is most often picked. The hypothesis would have to be changed to "If a piece of watermelon, a piece of

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hamburger, a potato chip, and a piece of cookie are left out, then the cookie will be most often picked."

6. Communicating: The experiment could be shared in a Power Point presentation given to the class.