

WHAT IS A SCIENTIST?

Name: _____

What is a scientist? Do they always wear lab coats and have crazy hair? The answer to that question is NO. A scientist is a person who learns about their subject. They observe, describe, and experiment.

Scientists use the Scientific Method for making discoveries about the world around us. Scientists begin the Scientific Method by asking questions about how something works. They research about the topic by reading books, encyclopedias, and scientific journals. Then they form a hypothesis, or an educated guess, about what the answer to their question may be.

Scientists test their hypothesis with an experiment. It's important for scientists to write down everything during their experiments. This includes what they hear, smell, see, taste, and feel. This helps them present their discoveries to other people. It also helps them make changes to improve their experiments.

Once scientists complete experiments, they form a conclusion. The conclusion is the answer to their experiment. It may also be a discovery that they have made. Successful scientists reflect on their experiments. Reflecting is important because it helps scientists improve their experiments.

Scientists do many different things. They can be many different people. They can also study many different things. Some scientist study plants and animals, Earth, environment, astronomy, chemistry, and physics. What subject interests you?



1. What do scientists use to make discoveries?

- a. luck
- b. observations
- c. Scientific Method
- d. encyclopedia

2. What is another word for "hypothesis"?

- a. educated guess
- b. conclusion
- c. lucky guess
- d. good guess

3. Scientists test their hypothesis with...

- a. people
- b. animals
- c. an experiment
- d. an assessment

4. What's the last step in the Scientific Method?

- a. hypothesis
- b. conclusion
- c. observation
- d. reflection