

🡨Image 1



🡨Image 2



🡨Image 3

<http://brainden.com/eye-illusions.htm>

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: 9/3/13 Period: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ASSIGN

**Using the Scientific Method**

**Observations vs. Inferences:**

**Directions:** Examine the photographs at your lab station. Record 2 qualitative observations, 2 quantitative observations, and 2 inferences about the photographs in the table below.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Image 1** | **Image 2** | **Image 3** |
| Qualitative Observations:  Quantitative Observations:  Inferences: | Qualitative Observations:  Quantitative Observations:  Inferences: | Qualitative Observations:  Quantitative Observations:  Inferences: |

**Experimental Design: Old Wives’ Tales**

People sometimes give us advice for better health or well-being. Some of these "helpful hints" are true. Some aren't. People have realized for a long time that some of these hints aren't true and call them "Old Wives' Tales." An old wives' tale is an everyday statement that some people believe is true, but it usually isn't. So how can you tell good advice from an old wives’ tale? You can't just ask a grownup, as sometimes they are wrong. The only way anyone can know the truth for sure is to use the Scientific Method.

**Directions:** Read the example below and answer the questions about the example. Then, choose one Old Wives’ Tale that you would like to do an experiment on, and design your own experiment for it.

**Example:** Eating carrots improves your vision.

My experiment:

1. Question: Does eating more carrots improve your vision?
2. Hypothesis: If you eat more carrots, then your vision will improve.
3. Experiment: Pick 300 people at random to test. Give them a vision test at the beginning of the experiment. Then divide them into 3 groups: the first group won’t eat any carrots, the second group will eat 10 carrots a day, and the third group will eat 20 carrots a day. At the end of 3 months, give everyone another vision test and compare the results among the groups.
4. Analyze Data: Compare the results. Create a graph to visually represent the results.
5. Conclusion: Was my hypothesis correct? Why?

Questions for Example:

1. What was my sample size? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. Why do think I divided my test subjects into 3 groups?
3. What was the independent variable in the experiment? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. Where is the independent variable on the graph? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
5. What was the dependent variable in the experiment? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
6. Where is the dependent variable on the graph? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
7. What was the controlled variable in the experiment? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
8. In which step did I describe my methodology? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Old Wives’ Tales: (Choose ONE)**

If you go outside with wet hair, you'll catch a cold.

Reading in dim light will damage your eyes.

Too much TV is bad for your eyes.

Eating cheese before going to bed will make you have nightmares.

A recipe will not work if you mix ingredients partly clockwise, partly anti-clockwise.

**Your experiment:**

1. Question: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. Hypothesis: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. Experiment: How will you test your hypothesis? What will your sample size be? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. Analyze Data: How will you compare your results? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Draw a graph to show how you could visually represent your data (you do not need to fill in made-up data; just set up the graph—be sure to label your axes!)

1. Conclusion: What question should you always answer in the conclusion section?
2. What was the independent variable in the experiment? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. Where is the independent variable on the graph? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. What was the dependent variable in the experiment? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
5. Where is the dependent variable on the graph? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
6. What was the controlled variable in the experiment? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
7. What are some possible problems with your experiment? (Think: is it ethical to force someone to do something that could possibly harm them?)