**Science Project Update and Projected Timeline**

Science Projects are underway!  It is a slow process since it involves one-on-one time with every student.  I don’t want to rush it so the timeline is still fluid at this point.

So far, every student has at least a rough draft of a question that has been approved.

**Example #1**

**Question:**  Does temperature affect the strength of a magnet?

**What will you be comparing?** How many paper clips magnets of different temps will hold.

**What will you measure?**The number of paper clips held.

**What unit will you use to measure?**Paper clips

**Example #2**

**Question:** Does the type of sugar affect crystal formation?

**What will you be comparing?** Crystals (rock candy) made with 3 types of sugar (powdered, table, brown)

**What will you measure?** The weight of the final product (rock candy)

**What unit will you use to measure?** Grams

Question: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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What will you be comparing? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What will you measure? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What unit will you use to measure? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Important Information on other side!!!**

**At School:**

In class , the next step is making a **Claim**.  It is like a hypothesis except rather than being an “educated guess” it is an expected answer to the question based on research.

Before a claim is made, the research needs to take place.  Each student will use one print resource and one on-line resource to support their claim.  So far, each student has used the online card catalog, DestinyQuest to locate, put on hold and check out a book at the school library.  I will model how and then the kids will be using the books in class to conduct research. We will do the same thing with an online research.

\*I like taking the time to teach library/ researching skills in conjunction with the steps of the Scientific Method.

**At Home:**

A rough draft list of materials needs to be generated and a procedure written.  I would like to check over this part, or have you check it over, before students move forward to conducting the experiment.  I want to check, or have you check, to make sure that everything being tested is the same except for what they are comparing and make sure that they can conduct several trials.

Some kind of a basic chart needs to be made to keep track of the experiment.  Here is an example:

                              **Number of Paperclips Magnet Held**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Trial 1 | Trial 2 | Trial 3 | Trial 4 | Average |
| From freezer |  |  |  |  |  |
| Room temperature |  |  |  |  |  |
| Warmed in sunlight |  |  |  |  |  |

Once procedures are set, the next step is conducting the experiment.  More information will be included in next week’s folder. If you think your child is ready to start then go for it!  Thank you for your support!

Each student has started a Google Doc to keep track of their project. It is a working document and everything they do should be added to it.  It will be rough to start but that is perfect! I comes together at the end.