

# **The Scientific Method for Kids**

**A Step-by-Step Guide to Scientific Thinking**

Dallas W. Thompson  
[www.dallaswthompson.com](http://www.dallaswthompson.com)

## **What is the Scientific Method?**

The scientific method is a way to answer questions and solve problems through careful observation and testing.

### **Step 1: Ask a Question**

Start with something you're curious about. Good questions begin with: How? What? When? Who? Which? Why? Where?

### **Step 2: Do Background Research**

Learn what others have discovered. Read books, search online, ask experts.

### **Step 3: Make a Hypothesis**

A hypothesis is an educated guess about what will happen. Use the format: 'If [I do this], then [this will happen] because [this is why].'

### **Step 4: Test with an Experiment**

Design a fair test. Change only ONE thing (variable) and keep everything else the same.

### **Step 5: Analyze Results**

Look at your data. Make charts or graphs. What patterns do you see?

### **Step 6: Draw Conclusions**

Was your hypothesis correct? What did you learn? What new questions do you have?

### **Step 7: Communicate Results**

Share what you learned! Make a poster, write a report, or give a presentation.

---

For more resources, visit [www.dallaswithompson.com](http://www.dallaswithompson.com)