

SCIENTIFIC EXPLANATIONS

CLAIM

Statement about the results of an investigation

- A one-sentence answer to the question you investigated
- It answers, **WHAT CAN YOU CONCLUDE?**
- It should NOT start with YES or NO.
- It should describe the relationship between the

DEPENDENT and **INDEPENDENT** variables.

EVIDENCE

Scientific data used to support the claim

Evidence must be:

- **SUFFICIENT**- Use enough evidence to support the claim.
- **APPROPRIATE**- Use data that support your claim.
Leave out information that doesn't support the claim.
- **QUALITATIVE**- (using senses) or **QUANTITATIVE**
(numerical) or a combination of both

REASONING

Ties together the claim and the evidence

- Shows **HOW** or **WHY** the data count as evidence to support the claim.
- Provides the justification for why **THIS** evidence is important to **THIS** claim.
- Includes one or more **SCIENTIFIC PRINCIPLES** that are

important to the claim and evidence.

**Remember:* Read what you've written to be sure it makes sense as a whole explanation.