**Basic Lab Report**

The following directions are required pieces of your lab report (both rough and final draft).

APA Format ---typed, double-spaced with 1" margins on all sides, 12 pt. Times New Roman font

1. **Title Page** – page number (upper right hand corner), running head [upper left hand corner(title of paper)], title near the center of the page, student name under the title, date, teacher/professor name, and course.
2. **Table of Contents** (optional)
3. **Background** – \_\_\_\_ pages – \_\_\_\_ sources 🡪 author, year OR title, year NO URLS, example (Schroeder, 2014).

* Make sure to explain past experiments that have been done that are close to the subject being tested
* Explain: all vocabulary, anatomy (if applicable), systems, etc.
* When you are writing this section; everything that isn’t commonly known, you must explain.
* Almost EVERY sentence will have a source listed at the end; you MUST cite any information that isn’t commonly known

1. **Materials** – list of materials used in the lab (bullet points are fine)
2. **Procedure** – List all steps of the lab performed. (HINT: If this paper was handed to another student, at another school, they should be able to follow your procedure and copy your lab EXACTLY)
3. **Hypothesis/purpose** (present tense) – small paragraph
   * Has to be measurable. example “Plant A’s initial mass is 160.4 grams and will be placed in humidity. After 4 days, the plant’s mass will decrease by 40 grams. “ 🡪 for every plant. This is MEASURABLE.
   * You must be able to definitively say if your hypothesis is supported or not.
4. **Data** – JUST DATA **NO ANALYSIS**

* Table 1 (raw data) no manipulation of numbers EXAMPLE mass of plant per day (grams)
* Table 2 (manipulated data/calculations) EXAMPLE Transpiration Rate 🡪 grams, meters, minutes - rate
* Graph (manipulated data) EXAMPLE 🡪 rate of transpiration
* Paragraphs with just data – do not example trends; just give readings

EXAMPLE

Table 1

This is your one sentence explanation. Needs to be single spaced and size 10 font.

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Graph 1

This is your one sentence explanation. Needs to be single spaced and size 10 font.

1. **Data Analysis** \_\_\_\_ pages
   * this is written; paragraph format
   * EXPLANATIONS FOR DATA 🡪 so NOW TALK ABOUT DATA trends
   * WHY you saw what you saw
   * EXPLAIN any abnormal or unexpected data; human error – can include more tables/graphs
2. **Conclusion**
   * Summarization by tying your analysis to your intro/background and hypothesis; do not write “in conclusion”; do not end “all fluffy” (Bigger picture)
   * State if hypothesis was supported or not.
3. **Citations** ☺ Go to <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/> and follow the directions. We will go over these in class.
   * APA format
   * Alpha order