

A Guide to Writing a Lab Report

Title of Experiment

You should make sure that your title tells people a little bit about your experiment. For example, if you are trying to find out how to grow the healthiest plant, your title could be 'Effects of Sunlight on Plant Growth' or 'Effects of Water on Plant Growth'.

Purpose/Introduction

This section tells people a bit more about your experiment. What is the point of your experiment? Why are you doing it? What are you trying to find out? What do you already know about it? Is there a scientific theory that links to your experiment?

Hypothesis

What do you think your results will show?

Materials

What equipment did you use? Did you use test tubes, scissors, pens, pencils? List all the materials that you used in your experiment here.

Method

This part means what you did and how you did it. What were the steps that you took to complete your experiment? What did you do with the materials that you used? Think of this section as a step-by-step guide for your experiment.

Results/Data

This part of the lab report should include only data and results - the facts and figures. You don't have to write what the results mean in this section. If you want to, you could create a table or graph for this section.

Discussion

In this part of the lab report, you should discuss the results. What does your data mean?

Conclusion

Now you have to look back at what you wrote in the 'hypothesis' section of your report. Were you right? The proper question that scientists ask themselves here is: is my hypothesis accepted?