# How to Write a Lab Report

*Date(s) the lab was carried out* ↘

Student's Name _____ Period _____ Date _____

## Title

## Purpose / Research Question

What exactly do you want to know as a result of conducting this experiment?

## Background or Concept / Skill Check (not in every lab)

Theory or background material related to the experiment.

## Materials / Apparatus

List all laboratory equipment and other materials needed to perform the experiment.

*This is usually given to you. You need to attach this section to the front of your lab.*

## Procedure

A description of what to do to complete the lab (i.e. to perform the experiment.

*This is often given but there are some inquiry labs where you must come up with your own procedure. Remember to write your procedure with clear steps so that a person could duplicate*

## Data, Observations, Diagrams, Graphs & Sample Calculations

- Observations (as needed)
- **Data** (should be in tabular format)
- **Sample Calculations** (as needed)
- **Graphs(s)** ~
  - **x-axis = independent variable/ abscissa**
  - **y-axis = dependent variable/ ordinate**
    **(this variable depends on the x variable)**
- Sketches or diagrams (as needed).

*Make sure that your graphs have:*

- ***A descriptive title.***
- ***Labels on both axes.***
- ***Units on both axes.***
- ***Scatter Plot of your data points***
- ***Best Fit line or curve.***
- ***y=mx+b equation of the line.***

## Data Analysis ~ This section is usually ½ of your lab grade.

Answer any questions that are posed in the laboratory. These may be calculations, descriptions of what your graphs indicate errors, etc. Take your time on this section and fully answer the questions.

## NOTE:

- **Late labs are NOT accepted**. If you are going to be absent, send the lab with your lab partner. If both of you are absent, send a soft-copy of your lab to me via email and bring your paper copy to class when you return. Labs are due at the beginning of your class period.
- Labs should be **assembled in the order listed** on this paper. Out of order labs will result in a loss of 2 points on the lab.