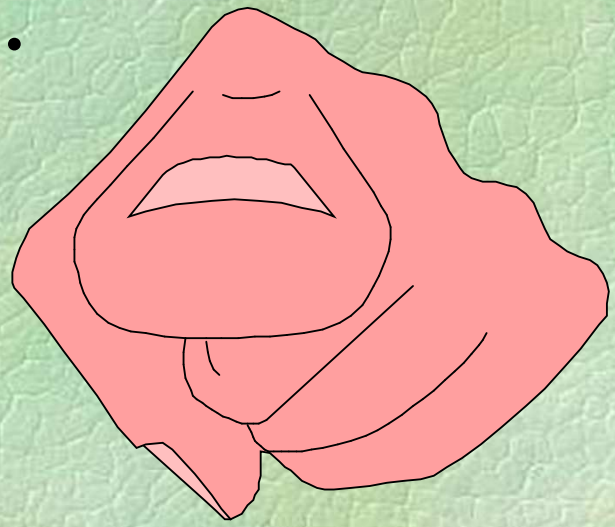
Scientific Method

Who uses it?

What is it?

Why should I care?

Everyone uses it everyday.



Yes Even You!!!!!!!!!!

It is a way to solve problems. Do you have any problems to solve?

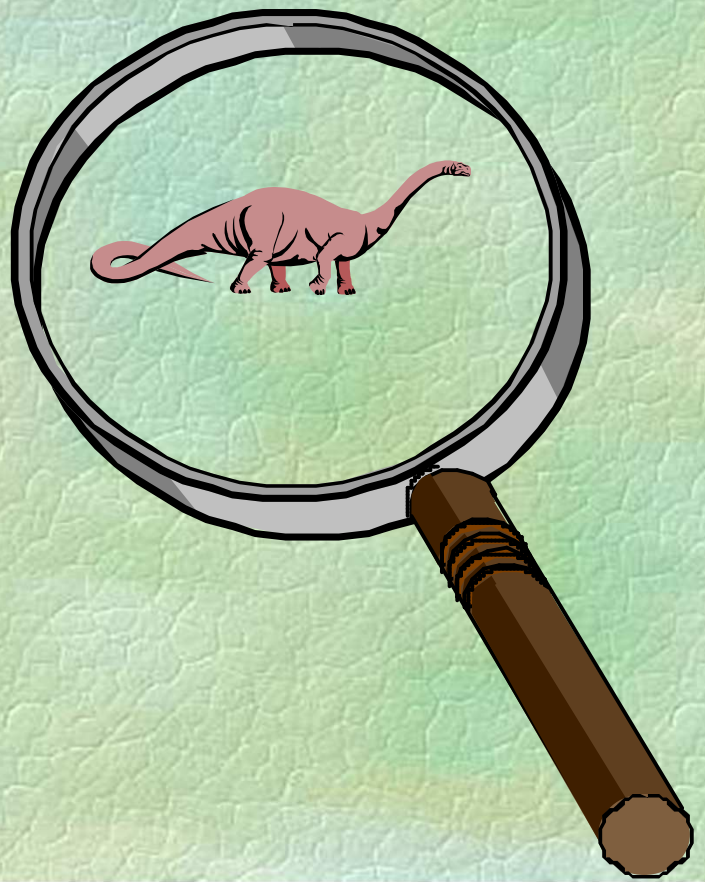
- Any **big** or any small ones?

Any of these sound familiar?

- Where are My Shoes?
- What should I have for lunch?
- What class do I have next?
- Did I do my homework for that class?
- What is the cure for cancer?
- Which deodorant works the longest?

There are six steps to the Scientific Method.

- 1. Problem
- 2. Information
- 3. Hypothesis
- 4. Experiment
- 5. Observations
- 6. Conclusion



By following these steps in order you will learn about your question.

- Notice the IN ORDER part. It is very important.

Problem

*This is the question that you are trying to answer or problem that you are trying to solve.

*Try to narrow it down and be very specific.

Information -

- gather data about your question. -
  - books
  - magazines
  - reports
  - experts
  - your past experiences

Hypothesis

- an educated guess
- a prediction based on data
- what *you* think the answer is based upon your gathered information

Experiment

- This is broken into 2 parts, materials and procedure.
- Materials is a list of equipment that you will need for the experiment.
- Procedure is a list of instructions that you need to follow for the experiment.

Observations

- Collection of information and data from the experiment.
- It may be charts, graphs, or written work.
- This is WHAT HAPPENED!!!!!

Conclusion

- What did you find the answer to the question was?
- It is **OK** if it turns out that your hypothesis was not correct. You learned!!!!!!!!!

Report your findings

- One of the most important parts of the scientific method is to report to others your findings.
- You will help others learn.