

Lesson 4-3: Forming a hypothesis

~20 minutes

Student Version	Teacher Discussion Notes	Materials
N/A	<p>A hypothesis is an educated guess that can take different forms. Sometimes it is in the form of, “If (something happens with your independent variable), then (something else will happen with your dependent variable).” Other times, it is an idea of what the outcome of a study will be, like, “Option A will have a certain outcome that is greater than/less than option B” or “Manipulating the independent variable will/will not have an impact on the dependent variable.” By the end of the research step, you should have found information that either surprises you or supports your hypothesis. Both of these are equally valuable, so don’t just try to find information that agrees with your hypothesis.</p> <p>You may want to provide your students with an activity to help them identify well-written and poorly-written hypotheses. This could be in a form of a worksheet, a discussion, or a board activity. Have students give justification for which proposed hypotheses are acceptable and which need improvement.</p> <p>Give teams time to form a hypothesis. Ask them to provide evidence from their background research to support their hypothesis.</p>	N/A