

MATERIALS & PROCEDURES

DE PORTOLA S.F. 2016-17

DUE BY: _____

Materials: Identifying ALL of your materials is important so that someone could attempt to reproduce your project. You need to list everything involved in your experiment. Your list should be specific. If it is really important to use a certain brand, then list that brand. If the experiment requires a specific quantity or size/amount, be sure to provide that too. The format of your materials can be in bullet form and typically do not need to be in any specific order (unless it makes sense to list them that way).

Tips for writing your materials/checklist:

- ✓ Bullet form is fine
- ✓ Include the quantity needed
- ✓ Include the brand if necessary **
- ✓ When in doubt...include it in your material to be safe!
- ✓ You do not need to state where you got it from
- ✓ Be specific with size or description
 - Example: "8 inch plastic straws" instead of "straws"
 - "8.5" x 11" white paper" instead of "paper"
 - ** "Miracle Grow Potting Soil" instead of "soil"



Procedures: Procedures are extremely important in a science project because it provides the steps for repeating your experiment by other scientists. Procedures are listed in order and should be represented by using number (Step 1, Step 2...) or letters (A, B, C...). Writing the word "step" before each one is optional.

Tips to writing a procedure:

- Explain in detail how to perform each specific major task.
- Explain the step as if a person has a basic scientific background.
- Be sure to include ALL necessary steps to accomplish your experiment.
 - "Recording your data" is a necessary step and should be included when necessary.
- Each "step" should be no more than two tasks at a time.
 - Break up lengthy directions into two or more steps
- You can say (for example) - "repeat steps 2 - 8 using a different..."
- Be sure to have someone else read them to see if they make sense. Not everyone understands the way you think so getting a different perspective is helpful.