



Maine Saves Energy

Investigation Planning Guide

Consider the following as you plan your investigation. Record your investigation plan in your scientists' notebook.

1. Record the investigation question.
2. What prior knowledge do you have about this topic that will help you answer this question?
3. Make a prediction based on your prior knowledge. Make certain your prediction includes an explanation. I think because...
4. What data is relevant to the investigative question? In other words, what data should be collected? Why?
5. How will you collect the data?
6. How much data needs to be collected? / How much data is available?
7. How will you record your data?

Consider the following during your investigation. Record your ideas in your scientists' notebook. Use words, pictures, graphs, or tables to help explain your ideas and findings.

8. How will you analyze your data?
9. How will you display your data?
10. Revisit your investigative question and prediction. What conclusion can you write based on the evidence you collected? The conclusion answers the investigative question. (How do you know, what is your evidence?)
11. How will you communicate your findings to others?
12. What recommendations will you make based on your findings?