

The Scientific Method

How do scientists make discoveries? They follow the five steps of the **scientific method**:

1. Make **observations**. Check out the world around you to find out everything you can about a problem you want to solve.
2. Form a **hypothesis**, or predict what you think will happen when you do the experiment.
3. Perform **experiments**, or tests, that will prove your hypothesis is right or wrong.
4. Collect **results**. What happened when you did your experiment? What information can you collect?
5. Draw **conclusions**, or answers, about your hypothesis by taking a good look at your results.