

## MEASURING THE IMPACTS OF BIOTIC AND ABIOTIC FACTORS ON GROWTH

Grass is a typical feature seen in many ecosystems across North America. They are typically seen as easy plants to grow, with very few requirements. With just the simple ingredients of sunlight, soil, water, and seeds, you can typically see growth within 3-4 days of first planting a grass seed.

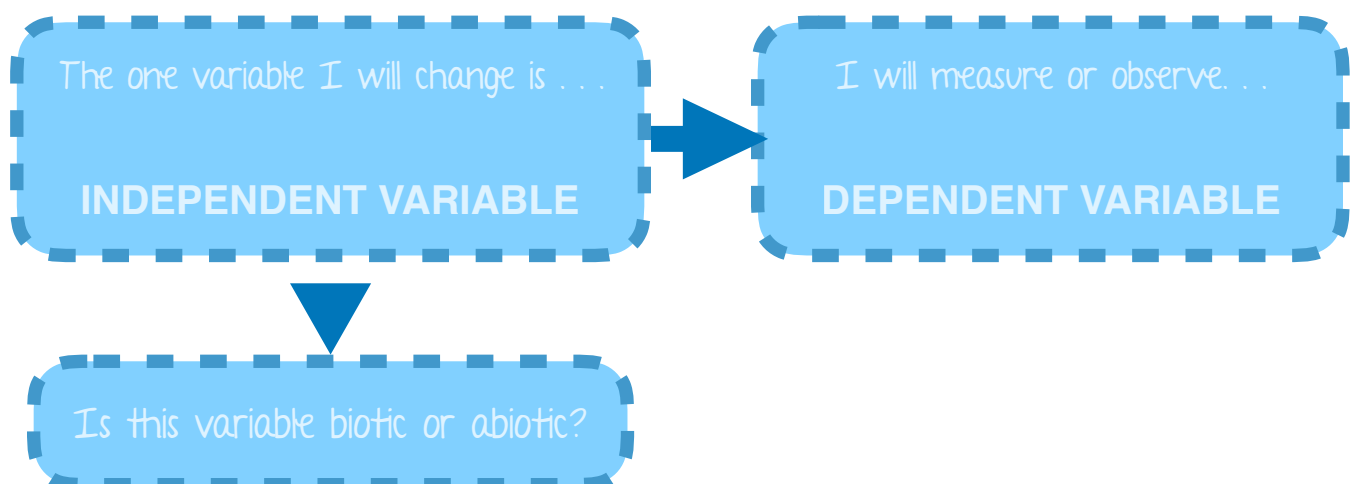
However, there are several abiotic and biotic factors that may affect how quickly a plant may grow. Some of these biotic and abiotic factors may include:

Nutrients Available	Pests
Amount of Water	Competition for Nutrients
Amount of Light	Acidity of Soil

In this lab you will be choosing either a **BIOTIC** or **ABIOTIC** factor to manipulate in order to test its effects on bean growth. You may choose from the factors above, or pick a novel abiotic/biotic factor to study.

You will then design your own experiment in which you will test your factor's growth. This experiment may be completed either in class or at home. You will be provided with basic supplies in the classroom, but may need to bring in your own supplies depending on what factors you choose to manipulate. If you choose to execute the experiment at home, you will also need to provide photo evidence of your progress.

### PLANNING THE EXPERIMENT



## PURPOSE

The purpose of this study is to see how \_\_\_\_\_.

## HYPOTHESIS

If \_\_\_\_\_ then the \_\_\_\_\_ will \_\_\_\_\_.  
change to independent variable                      dependent variable being measured                      expected change

This will happen because . . .

## MATERIALS

Materials need to complete this lab include:

## PROCEDURE

Remember to write your procedure using a numbered list. Write in third person.

## OBSERVATIONS

Time	Measurement
Day 1	
Day 2	
Day 3	
Day 4	
Day 5	
Day 6	
Day 7	
Day 8	
Day 9	
Day 10	

## RESULTS

Some form of graph must also be included. Choose your type of graph carefully. Be sure that your style of graph best conveys your data. You may choose a:

Bar Graph  
Line Graph  
Pie Chart  
Scatter Plot

## CONCLUSIONS

The hypothesis was \_\_\_\_\_ . The observations show that when  
Correct/ Incorrect

\_\_\_\_\_ was changed the \_\_\_\_\_. This can be  
Independent variable What happened to dependent variable

seen in the data by \_\_\_\_\_. Errors that could have changed the  
provide data that supports this

results included \_\_\_\_\_. One way this experiment could be improved is by

\_\_\_\_\_.

## LAB REPORT CHECKLIST

You are to design a lab report outlining your experiment.

Your lab report must include:

- . Title Page
- . Purpose
- . Hypothesis
- . Materials
- . Procedure
- . Results (Data Table and One Graph)
- . Conclusions
  - . Did you prove or disprove your hypothesis.
  - . What data shows this?
  - . Sources of error you may have encountered.
  - . Possible future experiments.

**USE THE ATTACHED RUBRIC AS A GRADING OUTLINE FOR YOUR LAB REPORT.**