

Science Project Background Research Paper

The purpose of the background research paper is to find out all you can on your topic. You need this knowledge to be able to write a hypothesis, which is an educated guess based on research.

The best place to start is look at your question. For example, our class example is: Which brand of fertilizer is best for tomato plant growth? I need to conduct research on tomato plants, what they need to be healthy, what nutrients they need, etc. I also need to research fertilizers, the different kinds, how they are made, etc. All of this research needs to be written as notes in the research section of your logbook. I would recommend putting the source at the top of the page, and using a separate page for each source. Keeping organized will help when you go to write your paper. Also, look to see if experiments similar to yours have already been conducted. If they have, tell what others have found, what you liked about these experiments, and what you plan to do differently, if anything.

Begin your paper with an introductory paragraph. Briefly tell what your experiment is about. After the introduction, begin telling what you learned from your research. Keep the information organized and make sure it flows. End your paper with a concluding paragraph. There is a minimum of two pages for this paper.

Your paper needs to be typed double spaced in Times New Roman with 12 point font. It also must include a bibliography. The easiest way to do this is by using EasyBib (www.easybib.com). The bibliography needs to be alphabetized on a separate sheet.