Independent Investigation Guidelines

Step 1: Create a Question
➢ What do you want to find out?
➢ Does your question relate to the topic?
➢ Can you develop an experiment to answer your question?
➢ Does your question make sense? Is it confusing?

Step 2: Hypothesis
➢ What do you think will happen?
➢ BE SPECIFIC!
➢ Use complete sentences.

Step 3: Procedure
➢ What steps will you follow to find an answer?
  ✓ BE SPECIFIC! Label your steps using 1, 2, 3, etc.
  ✓ Would someone else be able to follow your directions?
➢ How will you collect your data?
➢ How will you ensure reliable results?
➢ What safety issues need to be addressed?

Step 4: Experiment & Data
➢ Be sure to display your data in an organized manner. Use a table or chart to help you show your results. Don’t forget to label!
➢ Include enough data to prove or disprove your hypothesis.

Step 5: Analysis/Conclusion
➢ What happened during your experiment?
➢ Did your results support your hypothesis?
➢ Write a summary of what you learned during your experiment and address your results.
➢ Explain any unexpected results.
➢ Are your results reliable?
➢ Did you use complete sentences?