Lab Report Template

**1st paragraph**: paragraphs should be a minimum of 3 sentences each

Statement of the problem:

* It is OK to start with a question and then proceed to answer that question as you write the report. Do not answer it in the first paragraph.
* What question are you trying to answer? (ex: Which brand of toilet paper is strongest when wet?) (ex: How does Calcium Chloride react with liquids?)
* Include any background information you may need to know to answer the question. (ex: It was important to know the meaning of exothermic and endothermic before starting the experiment.)
* Explain any key terms that are important to the lab (ex: reactant, product, exothermic)
* State your hypothesis (ex: Brand A will support the most weight because it is 2 ply.) (ex: Calcium chloride will get hot when mixed with water.)

**2nd paragraph:**

The Experiment!!

* Transition phrase to consider: In order to test this…
* Summarize the procedure that you followed to test the question. You may list these as numbered steps. This should be in your own words and NOT copied directly off of your lab sheet. Each step is usually one sentence. Keep it simple. (ex: 1. Each reactant was measured. 2. The baking soda was added to the bag, followed by the Calcium Chloride.)
* Do not include statements such as “And then I walked to the counter, and then I measured the baking soda…”

**3rd paragraph**:

The Data!!

* Transition phrase to consider: An example of the data is as follows:
* Explain your observations that you made before, during and after the lab. **You may include a data table or chart in this section if you like.**
* Other times you may need to include a diagram, illustration, or line graph to help explain your results.

**4th paragraph:**

Cite a scientific article that supports your topic!!

* Read the two articles about Calcium and Chlorine and **include 3 interesting** facts for **each element** in this paragraph
* Cite your source for your information. The articles are both from Ducksters.com a science site for kids. In your paragraph, you would state “according to Ducksters.com….” This validates where you found your information.

**5th paragraph:**

The Conclusion!!

* Transition phrase to consider: According to the data…
* Explain if your hypothesis was correct and why or why not.
* Explain 2 possible sources of error (something that could have changed your results)
* Explain what you learned from completing the experiment
* Words to consider using: “In conclusion,” “Our data shows…” “This investigation shows…” “This data supports…”
* Words not to use: “Our opinion is…” “The data proves…” “I believe…![C:\Documents and Settings\w.hutchison\Local Settings\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\5ORAI107\MC900186164[1].wmf]()” ![C:\Documents and Settings\w.hutchison\Local Settings\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\O342MTCX\MC900233971[1].wmf]()