



Background Research Plan Worksheet

Name: _____

1. What is the **question** you are going try to answer with an experiment? _____

2. List the **keywords** and phrases from your question and the topic in general. (Hint: Use an encyclopedia to help you)

_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

3. Now use your keywords to build some **questions to guide your background research**. Develop at least two or three from each “question word.” Don’t worry about whether you already know the answer to the question—you’ll find the answers when you do your background research. And don’t forget to “network” with knowledgeable adults who can help guide you toward good materials!

Question Word	Possible Questions (you can think of others)	Substitute your keywords (or variations of your keywords) for the blanks in the previous column. Write down the relevant questions and use them to guide your background research.
Why	Why does ____ happen? Why does ____ ____? Why _____?	
How	How does ____ happen? How does ____ work? How does ____ detect ____? How does one measure ____? How do we use ____? How _____?	