

## Independent Investigation

# Library Research

We will be researching information for several days. Your job is to collect notes from several sources in order to write a five page report on your investigation topic. This report is the *Literature Review* or *Background Information* portion of your formal written lab report.

### *Things to keep in mind as you are researching your topic:*

1. Know your question
2. Find sources (non-fiction books, magazines [print or online databases], encyclopedias [ print or online versions], or REPUTABLE websites)
3. Cull (select) pertinent information

### **Lay it all out on your table:**

1. place bibliography at the top of your paper
2. fold paper in half (hotdog fold)
3. list keywords along left half
4. write notes on right half (**words, phrases** only)
5. avoid the back of the paper
6. begin a new page with each new source

### **Include in your research:**

1. History of the topic
2. Current theories and explanations
3. Scientists who have contributed to the topic
4. Impact of the topic on society
5. Drawings & diagrams

You must gather enough information to write a report that is five pages (types, double spaced 12 – 14 point font) in length.

You must have at least three different sources of information. Only one encyclopedia will count!

# **WORK SMART!**