

Partner(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Investigation: Beaks and natural selection

Materials:

- Tray for the “habitat”
- Food types
  - Assorted beans
  - Rubber bands
  - Paper clips
  - Beads
  - Elbow macaroni
- “Beaks” or tools
  - Tweezers
  - Toothpicks
  - Binder clips
  - Scissors
  - Spoons
  - Pliers
  - Tongs
  - (Optional additions) Pencils used as chopsticks, etc

Objective:

- To see how natural selection works on a population depending on the resources
- To see how variation is important for adaptations to occur, thus resulting in natural selection and ultimately new species

Problem (options):

- 1.) Choose a type of beak (example: which beak will be the best for picking up beans?)
- 2.) Choose different seed types (example: which food is best for the scissor beaks?)

ELEMENTS OF YOUR LAB:

Introduction:

- Include:
- the purpose of your investigation
  - what you changed (independent variable)
  - what you measured (dependent variable)
  - some background information (from at least 1 source<sup>\*\*\*</sup>)
  - general statement on the importance of your topic
  - hypothesis (consistent with your IV and DV)

Methods:

- a list of your materials, including as much specific information as possible

Partner(s): \_\_\_\_\_

- a description of your experimental design (in a numbered fashion )
- a discussion of constants (controlled variables)

Results:

- short paragraph(s) on the key points of your analyzed data
- data tables and graphs

Discussion:

- your conclusion, which is based on data and includes relevant data in the statement
- a discussion of any difficulties you encountered  
(NOTE: There are ALWAYS difficulties that you can discuss!)
- suggestions for how your experiment could be improved or extended

**\*\*If you included an outside source for your background information, please cite it using MLA formatting!\*\***