

# How to Write a Scientific Explanation

## Components

- Make a claim about the problem.
- Provide evidence for the claim.
- Provide reasoning that links the evidence to the claim.

## Definitions

- Claim: An assertion or conclusion that answers the original question
- Evidence: Scientific data that supports the student's claim that must be appropriate and sufficient. Can come from an investigation or other source such as observations, reading material, archived data, or other
- Reasoning: Justification that links the claim and evidence. Shows why the data counts as evidence to support the claim, using appropriate scientific principles.

## Qualities of Communication

Write the explanation so others can understand it.

- Use precise and accurate scientific language.
- Write clearly so that anyone interested in the explanation can understand it.
- Articulate your logic.

# Explanation Tool

Question	
Evidence from data and observations	Science ideas or concepts or principles
Claim <i>(Your claim should answer the question.)</i>	
Explanation <i>(Make sure to link your claim, evidence, and science ideas.)</i>	