

# A Scientific Investigation Project

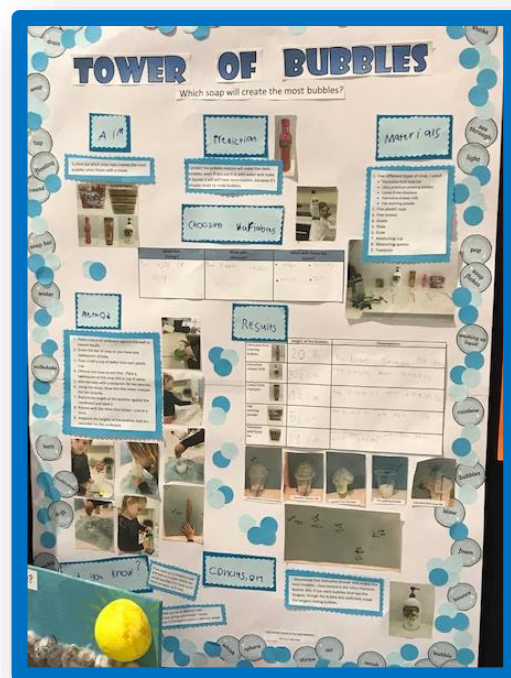
**The Task:** To **design and perform a scientific investigation** and **report on the results** obtained and the **conclusions reached**.

## What to do:

Ask a **focus question** then work towards “finding out” an answer.

You **MUST** keep a **journal** that **explains what you are doing and why**.

- ✪ Choose a topic.
- ✪ Collect background information about the topic. Do some research!
- ✪ Design and perform one or more experiments that will make up the investigation.
- ✪ Collect data and share data.
- ✪ Analyse the results and **draw your conclusions**. That means look at the results of your investigation and tell others what you found out/learnt.
- ✪ Include any references and acknowledge the assistance you received.



## What makes a winning entry?

Relevance of the topic	Is the topic chosen <b>interesting and relevant</b> ? Is it original? Is the focus question <b>testable</b> ? <b>(Keep it age appropriate.)</b>
Scientific Research	Is there evidence of scientific research? It is relevant, accurate and clearly set out? <b>Have all sources been cited? (Make a list as you go!)</b>
Experimental Design	Does it include elements of a <b>FAIR TEST</b> and the variables are identified ie: Are <u>independent, dependent, controlled variables outlined</u> ?
Data	Is <b>data (information) collected</b> from the investigation? Is it accurate and displayed in a suitable way? eg: graphs, with pictures or on a table.
Conclusion	Is a valid <b>conclusion reached about what was investigated</b> ? Make sure you use the data collected to support your conclusion!
Notebook	<b>Does the notebook contain evidence of “scientific thought”?</b> Include accurate and detailed notes/pictures etc. about your findings, decisions and thought processes along the way!