

Name:

LOOKING at RESEARCH QUESTIONS



1. For each question, decide whether it is researchable.

A Researchable question is one that...

- Needs information from sources other than yourself
- Can be researched—you can find information to help you answer it
- Not too broad = So general that it would take you forever to answer it
- Not too narrow = So specific that it doesn't allow for more exploration of a topic

2. Then, decide what type of research question it is.

YES/NO question: The answer to the question is either YES or NO.

INCH question: The answer is very short, and usually needs very little research.

FOOT question: The question requires some reading through the information you find to answer the question in your own words.

YARD question: This question requires some searching in a variety of sources, then combining the information you find, and drawing your own conclusions.

Example Research Question	Researchable?	Type of Q
Who discovered matter?		
Can matter explode?		
What are atoms?		
How does steam form?		
How do states of matter change from solid, to liquid, to gas?		
Is there an undiscovered type of matter?		
What are the properties of matter, and what does each state of matter have in common?		
Can matter be a living thing?		
What kinds of textures can matter have?		
Is water vapor a solid, liquid or gas?		
What are all of the liquids in the world?		
What types of matter can be found on each of the different planets? How are the similar/different?		
What is dark matter?		
How does condensation work?		
How can I create an experiment that would show the water cycle?		
Who made a bigger impact on the discovery of matter? Archimedes or Galileo and why?		