

Date: _____

Name: _____

The scientific method

The Scientific Method is a set of steps that is meant to increase objective, factual knowledge of the world around us. I am sure you have all heard of the Scientific Method. It might have been the first thing you learned in a science class. To many non-scientists AND scientists, the scientific method is what distinguishes science from non-science. Tomorrow, in class, we will have a discussion on the scientific method, identifying some philosophical and practical problems with these steps, and how the method can be abused in order to promote pseudoscience.

Exercises

1. For tonight, please review wikipedia's entry to scientific method. What are the steps of the scientific method?
2. Image-search 'scientific method'. On that first page, note the different ways the scientific-method is illustrated. In a few sentences explain what is common, and what is different among these illustrations. How do you think these differences change the nature of science?
3. In 1-2 paragraphs, try to draw parallels between the scientific method and the checks activity.