

The Big Exploration

Week Six: Present Your Research

Hello! My name is Emily and I look after Year 5 to Year 9 outreach at Oxford Brookes University.

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And this is The Big Exploration - Week Six: Present Your Research!

Hello everybody and welcome back to the sixth and last week of The Big Exploration! This week we're going to talk all about how you can present research.

So how did you find completing your own research? We hope you had lots of fun!

Now you've finished your research, you should have lots of data. But, we've got a problem. Data is quite hard to understand when it's stuck in a table! So, for today's activity we're going to look at some handy tips for how to make your data easier to understand.

Now one of the most important skills that any budding researcher needs is the ability to communicate. Sharing your results means that other people can learn from it - you never know who that might be useful for.

So, your task for this week is to find a way to share your research! And you can do it in loads of different ways. Most researchers write about it, and some make posters. You could even make a presentation, or film a video of yourself explaining it!

Whichever way you choose, make sure you include the following bits of information.

First up, your title. State your research question really clearly, so we know what we're reading about.

Secondly, your abstract. An abstract is just a short summary of your research. So, really, super quickly describe: what did you want to research? How did you do it? And what you find out?

Hypothesis: Tell us what it was you expected to find out, before you started your research.

Next we've got background research. So, remember those five questions you came up with to help you to carry out your research? You should share what you found when you were trying to answer them, and it's good practice to say where you found those answers too!

Materials: List all the equipment you needed to carry out your investigation.

Next, experimental methods. So, tell us about your plan for carrying out the research!

And don't forget your results. This is the part where you share your data with everyone. Make sure you include any useful tables you might have, and definitely don't forget to put in your graphs!

Photos: A really cool added extra here would be including some photos! Did you take any whilst you were doing your investigating?

And last but not least, your conclusion. Writing a conclusion is super important, because it's your chance to tell everybody what your research has shown you! You could also include answers to questions like: Was your hypothesis correct? Did you find out anything you weren't expecting to? What might you change if you did the investigation again? Would you like to do more research? And how other people could use your research?

You can find more details on all of these on this week's worksheet.

When you're finished, please send us your work! We're so excited to see what you've come up with!

Thank you so much for joining us on this Big Exploration adventure! We hope you have had so much fun. Now you can use the skills that you've learnt on this project, to go and help you answer all of the questions you have about the world!