

The Scientific Method

Name - _____

Sample Problem - the lawnmower does not work.

Research - ask parents, phone small engine mechanic, talked to shop teacher, search internet.

Hypothesis - if I change the gas then the mower will work.

Experiment - drained old gas and replaced with new gas.

Conclusion - lawnmower still does not start. Old gas was not the problem. Must modify hypothesis.

New hypothesis 1 - if I change the spark plug then the mower will work.

Experiment - took out old spark plug and replaced with a new one gapped properly.

Conclusion - lawnmower still does not work. Spark plug was not the problem. Must modify hypothesis.

New hypothesis 2 - If I adjust the choke, then the mower will start.

Experiment - manually adjusted the choke lever on the engine and tried to start engine.

Conclusion - The lawn mower started. The problem was the choke lever (or possibly a combination of the above).

Complete the following problems using the same format as above. **It will take 3 or more tries to solve the problem!**

Problem 1 - The turtles in your aquarium are dying.

Problem 2 - You go to ride your bike and the tire is flat.

Problem 3 - You bake a cake and it doesn't rise.

Problem 4 - The chemistry report you worked on is missing from the memory stick you saved it on.

Problem 5 - Make up your own problem and solve.