

FREE SAMPLER

SCIENTIFIC METHOD

Mini Mystery



- ✓ One original mini case study
- ✓ Color-code 4 parts of the scientific method
- ✓ Answer key included

Biology • Life Science • Grades 6–10

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Scientific Method Mini Mystery

The Case of the Speedy Seeds

Name: _____

Period: _____

Maria notices that the bean seeds she planted over spring break sprouted much faster than the ones she planted in winter, and she wonders whether temperature affects how quickly seeds germinate. She predicts that if seeds are kept warmer, then they will sprout in fewer days. She wraps 20 seeds in damp paper towels: 10 go in a warm spot (25°C) and 10 go in a cool spot (15°C), all with the same water, light, and paper towels. The warm seeds sprout in an average of 4 days; the cool seeds take an average of 9 days. Maria decides warmer temperatures speed up germination.

Detective work — underline each part in the story:

1. Underline the **problem** in red.
 2. Underline the **hypothesis** in green.
 3. Underline the **independent variable** in orange.
 4. Underline the **dependent variable** in blue.
5. What did Maria keep the same for both groups of seeds (the constants)?
-
6. Was Maria's hypothesis supported? Use a number from her data in your answer.
-

★ **Ready for the full investigation?** The complete unit adds all 8 parts in 8 colors, three full case studies, graphing practice, CER writing, class games, and a capstone mystery — see the last page!

Answer Key

Problem (red): “she wonders whether temperature affects how quickly seeds germinate”

Hypothesis (green): “if seeds are kept warmer, then they will sprout in fewer days”

Independent variable (orange): temperature (25°C vs. 15°C)

Dependent variable (blue): days to sprout (germination time)

5. Same water, same light, same damp paper towels, same number of seeds per group.

6. Yes — warm seeds sprouted in 4 days vs. 9 days for cool seeds, so warmer temperatures sped up germination.

★ Enjoyed this mini mystery? There's a whole unit waiting.

The Science Skills Bundle takes your students from this warm-up to full mastery — all with the same color-coding system:

- Scientific Method Case Studies — all 8 parts, 3 full case studies + 18 slides
- Data Detectives: Reading Graphs & Tables — label & analyze real-style data + 15 slides
- Data Detectives: Claim-Evidence-Reasoning — color-code, fix, and write CERs + 14 slides
- EXCLUSIVE BONUS: The Final Case capstone — the ready-made unit test

Grab the bundle (and save 30%) here:

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