Lab Report Checklist

Title
◊ Concise and descriptive

Introduction
◊ Provide background information and theory relevant to the experiment performed
◊ Explain overall theme of the experiment
◊ If specific organisms were used, introduce species by scientific name
◊ Explicitly list objectives, hypotheses, and predictions

Materials and Methods
◊ Describe experimental design without too much or too little detail
◊ Do not present raw or analyzed data

Results
◊ Number and title Figures and Tables (Figure 1, 2, 3… Table 1, 2, 3…)
◊ Label axes on Figures and show legends
◊ Verbally describe and refer to what each table or figure shows (in full paragraphs)
◊ Do not interpret what data means

Discussion
◊ Interpret the results and relate them back to the overall theme of the experiment
◊ Use the results as evidence supporting or refuting hypotheses (not proving right or wrong)
◊ Reflect on what could be done to improve the experiment or learn more about different aspects of the system studied
◊ Link finding from this experiment to big picture ideas introduced in the Introduction

Work Cited
◊ All sources used in the text are cited here
◊ Sources not used in the text are not cited here
◊ Citations are formatted correctly

Created by a UConn Writing Center Science Liaison