Assignment: Independent Research Project (IRP)

Part 1: Brainstorm topics and potential hypothesis ideas. Refer to Biotech IRP Research Guide (Media Center presentation on how to use) to help you look for topics and find resources. Write down two-five potential hypothesis topics.

Part 2: Research

This is where you want to give all the information to the reader that they will need to know in order to understand your hypothesis and experimental set up. You want to have information that helps the reader understand why your topic is important in the real world.

For example, for hand washing, you would want to explain some history of hand washing, and why it is important to wash your hands. Give examples of what was thought before, and what information is out there that helps the reader understand why you developed your hypothesis. You will also need information on specifics related to your project, such as the ingredients in your soap/sanitizer, and why it works (i.e. how does it “clean”). If there have been experiments previously published, and/or if the company website has data, you will want to reference that as well. Be sure to include references for all of your background information.

Keep notes of what you find (and where you find it for referencing!) Use NOODLEBIB to make an annotated bibliography.

If the experiment has been done before, then take notes on how they set up their experiment and what you would do next or differently.

Your topic/hypothesis is a guideline at this point….you will finalize it after you do your research, because you may find information that changes your hypothesis. Do research on your top two topics first to see if you find information that helps you finalize your hypothesis.

Part 3: Write Background for your IRP  Due Friday, June 10 by the end of class

Develop 2+ pages (12pt font 1.15-1.5 spacing) of appropriately referenced (MLA) background information on the topic you have chosen as is relates to your independent research project. (Refer to examples on Biotech Research Guide).