

The WHYS Get in Trouble



Wonder Fuel
research guide

Research Guide

Objective

Students will choose a question, make a prediction, explore it, and share what they learn.

Step 1: Start With Your Why

- Ask students to write or draw one question they want to explore.
 - Examples:
 - Why do leaves change color?
 - Why is the ocean dark at the bottom?
 - Why do birds fly together?
 - Why do some sharks stay small?

Step 2: Make a Guess

- Students make a prediction using the sentence stem:
 - I think...
- Explain that this is sometimes called a hypothesis.

Step 3: Look for Clues

Choose two ways to explore the question:

- read a book
- ask a grown-up
- observe outside
- watch a short educational video
- visit the library
- look at pictures or diagrams

Research Guide

Step 4: Collect Your Wonder Fuel

Students record three things they learned. These can be:

- facts
- drawings
- labels
- new questions

Step 5: Share Your Discovery

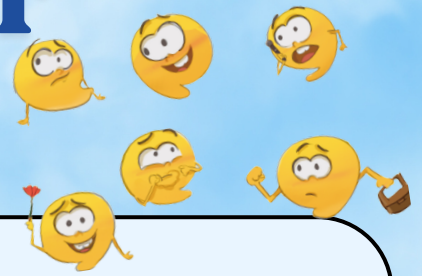
Students share with:

- a partner
- a small group
- the class
- their family

Extension Ideas

- create a Wonder Wall
- make a class book of questions and discoveries
- host a Curiosity Share Day
- pair research with drawing and labeling

Reflection for Teachers



This story can open powerful conversations not only for students, but also for educators.

Consider:

- How do I respond to frequent questioning?
- Which students may be expressing curiosity in ways I interpret as off-task behavior?
- What structures help my students hold onto their questions?
- How can I teach timing without shaming wonder?
- Where in the day can I intentionally make room for student questions?

Even small routines – such as a question jar, a wonder journal, or a daily curiosity share – can help children feel that their thinking is valued.

These lessons build early research skills by helping students turn one question into a simple inquiry project.

Objective

Students will choose a question, make a prediction, explore it, and share what they learn.

WONDER FUEL

NAME: _____



STEP 1: START WITH YOUR WHY

Write or draw one question you want to explore.

STEP 2: MAKE A GUESS

When we make a prediction, we are making a hypothesis.

Make a prediction about your why using:

- I think...

STEP 3: LOOK FOR CLUES

Choose two ways to explore your question:

- ☐ read a book
- ☐ ask a grown-up
- ☐ observe outside
- ☐ watch a short educational video
- ☐ visit the library
- ☐ look at pictures or diagrams

STEP 4: COLLECT WONDER FUEL

Record three things that you learned during Step 3.



STEP 5: SHARE YOUR DISCOVERY

Share your discovery with:

- ☐ a partner
- ☐ a small group
- ☐ your class
- ☐ your teacher
- ☐ your family
- ☐ a friend

I discovered that _____

MY WONDER DISCOVERY

My Why: _____

I discovered that _____





Wonder Fuel Certificate



_____ has earned this certificate for
exploring their Whys and being filled with wonder!

date: _____

signed by: _____



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