Chapter 1  Science Skills

Section 1.2 Using a Scientific Approach (pages 7-11)

This section describes scientific methods and how they are used to understand the world around you.

Reading Strategy (page 7)

Using Prior Knowledge Before you read, add to the web diagram what you already know about scientific methods. After you read the section, revise the diagram based on what you have learned. For more information on this Reading Strategy, see the Reading and Study Skills in the Skills and Reference Handbook at the end of your textbook.

Scientific Methods (pages 7-9)

1. Identify the goal of any scientific method.

2. Name three types of variables in an experiment.
   a. ____________  b. ____________  c. ____________

3. Is the following sentence true or false? If the data from an experiment do not support your hypothesis, you can revise the hypothesis or propose a new one.

4. How does a scientific theory differ from a hypothesis?

Match the following vocabulary terms to the correct definition.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>Vocabulary Terms</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5. Information that you obtain through your senses</td>
<td>a. theory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. A well-tested explanation for a set of observations</td>
<td>b. hypothesis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. A proposed answer to a question</td>
<td>c. observation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
8. Complete the model of a scientific method by filling in the missing steps.
   a. ____________________________  b. ____________________________
   c. ____________________________  d. ____________________________

Scientific Laws (page 9)
9. Is the following sentence true or false? A scientific law attempts to explain an observed pattern in nature. ________________
10. All scientists may accept a given scientific law, but different scientists may have different ________________ to explain it.

Scientific Models (page 10)
11. Why do scientists use scientific models? ____________________________

   ____________________________

12. Circle the letters that correctly state what scientists do if data show that a model is wrong.
   a. Change the model.        b. Replace the model.
   c. Ignore the data.         d. Revise the data.

Working Safely in Science (page 11)
13. Circle the letters of safety precautions to follow whenever you work in a science laboratory.
   a. Study safety rules.       b. Never ask questions.
   c. Read all procedural steps.  d. Understand the procedure.
14. Why should you wash your hands after every experiment? ________________