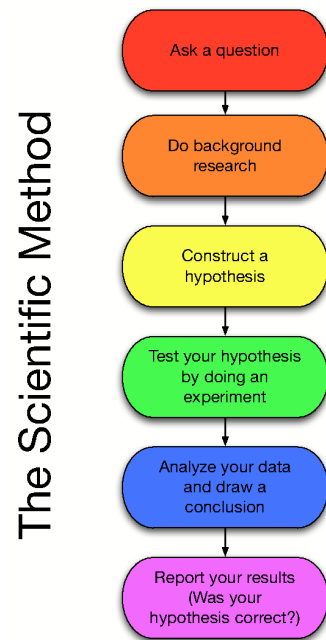


Element 4: Natural Sciences

Courses must address the scientific method by:

1. Asking questions about the natural world
2. Critically appraising existing information.
3. Developing and using hypotheses to make testable predictions.
4. Planning and carrying out investigations using appropriate tools and instrumentation,
5. Analyzing and interpreting data using appropriate tools and drawing reasonable conclusions,
6. Communicating results of scientific investigations.



Element 4A Life Science:

Courses must address the major ideas of the life sciences listed below:

1. The organization of life from molecules to the biosphere;
2. Energy flow in biological systems at multiple levels of organization;
3. The role of the gene in cell function and evolution;
4. Evolution as the unifying paradigm of the life sciences; *and*
5. Interactions of organisms with their environment, with an appreciation of biodiversity.

Element 4B Physical Science:

Courses must address the major ideas of the physical sciences listed below:

1. Matter: its composition, types, relative size, and properties;
2. Energy: its forms, transformations, relative amount, and conservation; *and*
3. Forces: motion, interactions and scale.

Element 4A/B: Minimum of 6 hrs of coursework that address all eight major ideas of 4A and 4B.