

Name _____ Hour _____

A. Select an article from a reputable news site that reports on a current scientific finding. The article should be more than a paragraph or two in length, and should offer some information on the research that was conducted. Choose an article that you think is of general interest to your class.

Here are some suggested news sites:

- BBC Science and Environment http://www.bbc.com/news/science_and_environment
- Nature <http://www.nature.com/news/>
- NPR Science <http://www.npr.org/sections/science/>
- Science News for Students <https://www.sciencenewsforstudents.org/>
- Science News <https://www.sciencenews.org/>

B. Read the article and find answers to the following questions:

1. What can you tell from the article about how the scientific research was conducted? For example, how long was the study conducted? Who funded the study? What was the initial research question? Is any data included in the article?
2. Has the finding been replicated by more than one team of scientists? Does the article include reactions from other scientists not involved in the research?
3. According to the article, is the conclusion consistent with things we already know, or is it a surprising result?

4. Does the article say whether the finding has been published in a scientific journal? Does it give a reference? Can you access the abstract for the article or the full research article online? (An abstract is a brief summary of a research article.) Does the news report of the findings seem to be accurate?

C. Show the article to a parent or other adult, and share with him or her your findings from the questions in Section B. Discuss the following questions with him or her, and record both your answers and your conversation partner's answers.

1. Do the findings of this research affirm or change your picture of the world in any way?

2. Does your faith have any connection to these findings? For instance, do the findings affirm or challenge your faith, or does the study address an area that concerns you on the basis of your faith?

D. Be prepared to present a short summary of your findings to other students in class. Be ready to explain to them:

- What is the finding that the article is reporting?
- What indicates that the science is valid?
- Does faith relate to these findings in any way?

Have your adult conversation partner complete the section below:

I discussed these questions with _____ (name of student), and I think his/her notes are a fair reflection of my contributions to the conversation.

Signed: _____ Relationship to student: _____