SCIENTIFIC VARIABLES
SORT CARDS

CARD TYPES
- Variable Type
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- Not a Variable

Cut out the cards.
Sort them into groups.

VARIABLE TYPE

INDEPENDENT VARIABLE

The factor that is changed by the investigator.

VARIABLE TYPE

DEPENDENT VARIABLE

The factor that is measured or observed.

VARIABLE TYPE

CONTROLLED VARIABLE

Factors that are kept the same to make it a fair test.

VARIABLE TYPE

CONTROL GROUP

The group that does not receive the independent variable.

EXAMPLE

TEMPERATURE (°C)

Changed by the investigator.

EXAMPLE

PLANT HEIGHT (cm)

Measured after the independent variable is changed.

EXAMPLE

LIGHT INTENSITY (lux)

Kept the same for all groups.

EXAMPLE

CONTROL GROUP (NO FERTILISER)

Does not receive the independent variable.

CONTROL STRATEGY

KEEP CONSTANT

Keep this factor the same in all groups.

CONTROL STRATEGY

MEASURE ACCURATELY

Use reliable instruments and record carefully.

CONTROL STRATEGY

SAME MATERIALS EQUIPMENT

Use the same materials and equipment.

CONTROL STRATEGY

REPEAT TESTS

Repeat trials and calculate an average.

NOT A VARIABLE

TIME OF DAY

Does not affect the outcome being measured.

NOT A VARIABLE

COLOUR OF THE TABLE

Does not affect the outcome being measured.

NOT A VARIABLE

NAME OF INVESTIGATOR

Does not affect the outcome being measured.

NOT A VARIABLE

BRAND OF NOTEBOOK

Does not affect the outcome being measured.

SORT THE CARDS INTO THE CORRECT GROUPS.