



# Graphing and Analyzing Scientific Data

Graphing is an important procedure used by scientist to display the data that is collected during a controlled experiment. There are three main types of graphs:

Pie/circle graphs: Used to show parts of a whole.



Bar graphs: Used to compare amounts.



Line graphs: Use to show the change of one piece of information as it relates to another change.

Both bar and line graphs have an "X" axis (horizontal) and a "Y" axis (vertical).



## Parts of a Graph:

Title: Summarizes information being represented in ANY graph.

Y VS X

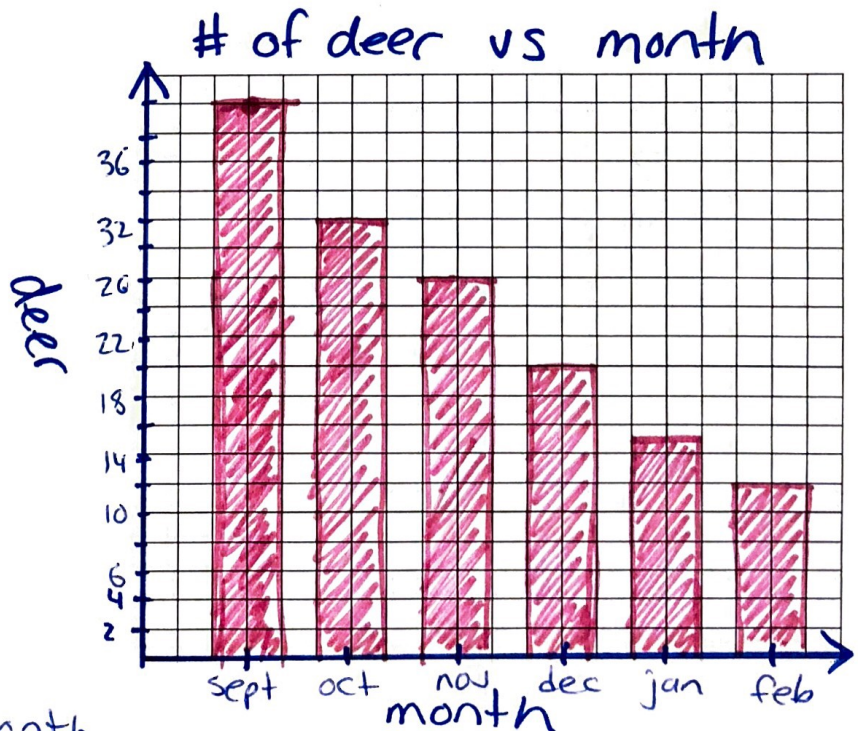
Independent Variable: The variable that is controlled by the experimenter, such as, time, dates, depth, and temperature. This is placed on the **X axis**.

Dependent Variable: The variable that is directly affected by the I.V. It is the result of what happens as time, dates, depth and temperature are changed. This is placed on the **Y axis**.

Scales for each Variable: In constructing a graph, one needs to know where to plot the points representing the data. In order to do this a scale must be employed to include all the data points.

A. Graph the following information in a **BAR graph**. Label and number the x and y-axis appropriately.

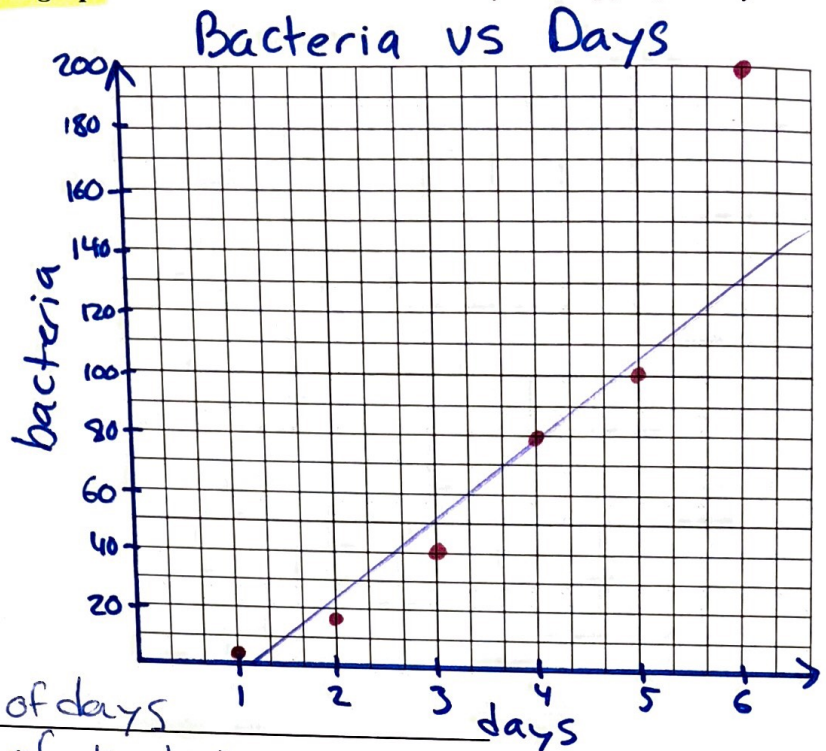
	indep	dependent
	Month	# of deer
9	Sept	38
10	Oct	32
11	Nov	26
12	Dec	20
1	Jan	15
2	Feb	12



1. What is the independent variable? month
2. What is the dependent variable? # of deer
3. What is an appropriate title? # of deer vs month

B. Graph the following information in a **LINE** graph. Label and number the x and y-axis appropriately.

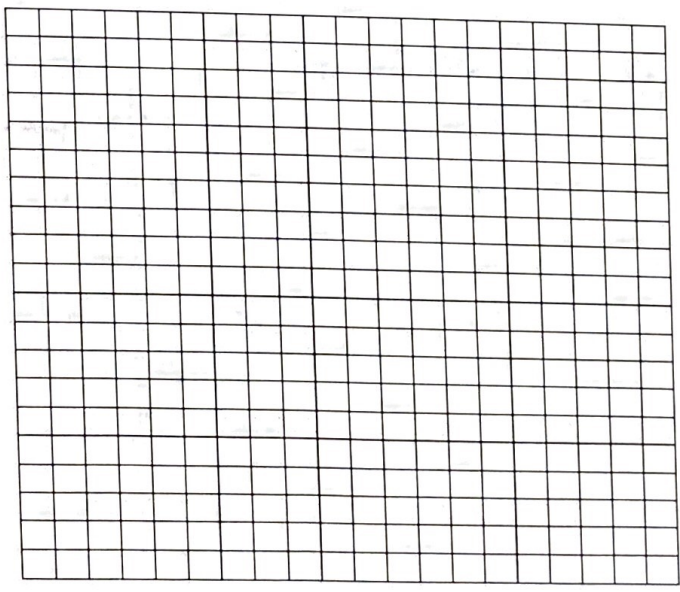
# of Days	# of Bacteria
1	4
2	16
3	40
4	80
5	100
6	200



1. What is the independent variable? # of days
2. What is the dependent variable? # of bacteria
3. What is an appropriate title? bacteria vs days

C. Graph the following information in a **BAR** graph. Label and number the x and y-axis appropriately.

# of Hours of Study	Grade
0	20
2	60
4	70
6	80
8	90
10	100



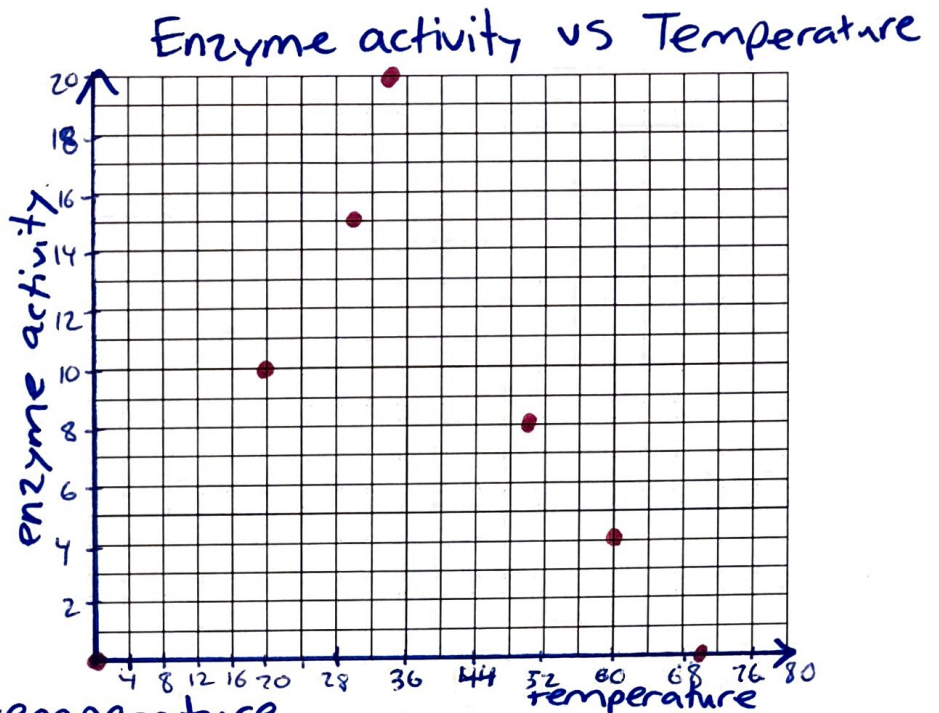
1. What is the independent variable? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What is the dependent variable? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What is an appropriate title? \_\_\_\_\_



# Scatter plot

D. Graph the following information in a ~~LINE~~ graph. Label and number the x and y-axis appropriately.

Temperature	Enzyme Activity
0	0
20	10
30	15
40	20
50	8
60	5
70	0



1. What is the independent variable? temperature
2. What is the dependent variable? enzyme activity
3. What is an appropriate title? enzyme activity vs temperature