Scientific Research Exploration

Scientific journals and articles are a great way to research a topic and learn how other experiments have been conducted. They are an integral part of composing your own scientific article because they provide a source of information that directly correlates to the research one does at a collegiate, and sometimes high school level.

The goal of this activity is to give you the opportunity to delve into scientific articles and begin gathering information on a topic that interests you.

To start out, think of a topic related to diving that interests you (artificial reefs, coral bleaching, physiological responses of diving mammals, etc.). Once you have thought of a topic you would like to research, go onto Google Scholar (scholar.google.com). This is a great site that compiles thousands of scientific articles and allows you to search for articles and papers that relate to your research topic*.

After you have found an article that interests you, read through the article and then answer the questions found below to expand your scientific thought process.

*Keep in mind that some of these articles require special access via institutional log ins (college, high schools).

Questions (to be answered after reading article)

- 1. What is the hypothesis?
- 2. What methods were used?
- 3. What were the results?
- 4. Did the results agree with the hypothesis? Why or why not?
- 5. Were there any significant findings?
- 6. What are human factors/ errors that could have impacted results?

