**Characteristics of Testable Questions**

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**(a guide for developing scientific questions for inquiry)**

**“SMART Questions”**

* **S**pecific (not too broad) –
  + a testable question begins with How, What, When, Who, or Which, (not Why, Is, or Does).
* **M**easureable (there are datasets available to answer the question) –
  + a testable question can’t be answered just by doing reading.
* **A**chievable (the question is able to be investigated with data) –
  + data are available to and accessible by you.
* **R**elevant (who cares and why do they care) –
  + you can explain why you care about asking the question
* **T**emporally and Spatially bound –
  + the question includes when and where the data are coming from

**Checklist for Testable Questions**

* Question begins with How, What, When, Who, or Which.
* Question is measurable or able to be investigated with data - available to and accessible by you
* Question includes anticipated effects (experiment) or relationships (descriptive/observational study) that are being investigated.
* Question only includes 1-2 variables.