**Characteristics of Testable Questions**

**updated 7/13/17**

**(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.