



Are Scientists Boring Lab Rats? Benchmarks

- SC.6.N.1.5 Recognize that science involves creativity, not just in designing experiments, but also in creating explanations that fit evidence.
- SC.7.N.1.5 Describe the methods used in the pursuit of a scientific explanation as seen in different fields of science such as biology, geology, and physics.
- SC.8.N.1.5 Analyze the methods used to develop a scientific explanation as seen in different fields of science.
- SC.912.N.1.7 Recognize the role of creativity in constructing scientific questions, methods and explanations.



Are Scientists Boring Lab Rats? Vocabulary Sheet

Amphipod: A small, shrimplike organism that is used to test the toxicity (*see definition below*) of certain pollutants in coastal water habitats.

Bioluminescent: A living organism capable of producing its own light.

Bioassay: An experiment testing, in this case, the toxicity of a pollutant on a living organism.

Cost-effective: Spending the least amount of money possible to get a task completed in a reasonable period of time.

Creative: Able to produce something new through ones imagination.

Ecotoxicology: Studying the toxic effects substances have on the environment.

Innovative: Using or showing new ways of doing tasks.

Sediment: In this case, the material that settles to the bottom of a liquid (e.g. the Indian River Lagoon). Sediment may be many things, including dirt, sand, shells, and bones.

Toxin: A substance that damages a living organism.

Toxicity: Degree to which a substance can damage a living organism.



Are Scientists Boring Lab Rats? Guiding Questions

1. At the beginning of the video, what did the narrator think about scientists?
2. What was she studying? Why is it important?
3. What were the results of her research project?
4. Describe 3 examples the narrator gave of scientists using creativity to do their research.