SCIENTIFIC EXPLANATIONS

CLAIM
Statement about the results of an investigation

- A one-sentence answer to the question you investigated.
- It answers, what can you conclude?
- It should not start with yes or no.
- It should describe the relationship between dependent and independent variables.

EVIDENCE
Scientific data used to support the claim

Evidence must be:
- Sufficient — Use enough evidence to support the claim.
- Appropriate — Use data that support your claim. Leave out information that doesn’t support the claim.
- Qualitative — (Using the senses), or Quantitative (numerical), or a combination of both.

REASONING
Ties together the claim and the evidence

- Shows how or why the data count as evidence to support the claim.
- Provides the justification for why this evidence is important to this claim.
- Includes one or more scientific principles that are important to the claim and evidence.

*Remember: Read what you’ve written to be sure it makes sense as a whole explanation.*