Lesson 3.1 – From Wonder to Researchable Question

Quarter 3 · Research & Investigation · Week 1

Name: _____ Partner(s): _____ Date: _____ Class: _____

Big Question: What makes a question researchable, and how do we sharpen our own?

Word Bank: researchable question · testable · feasible · wonder · operational definition

My Task

Sort questions as researchable or not. Then write and rank your own questions.

Our candidate question	IV	DV (operational definition)	Feasible? (Y/N)	Rank
1.				
2.				
3.				

Sentence stem: What is the effect of _____ on _____ of _____?

Scaffolded support: Use the sentence stem and a variable menu (soil amendment, light, water type, spacing, mulch).	**Grades 9–12 Challenge:** Write an operational definition for each variable and identify a possible confounding variable for each question.

Think & Respond

1. Rewrite “Does music help plants?” as a researchable question.

EXIT TICKET

1. Write your best question using the stem.

2. What is your operational definition for the DV?

3. Why is it feasible?