

Title Page (DUE Wednesday, January 21st)

- Follow the template!
- Running Header (top of page)
 - Title in ALL CAPS (left aligned) and Page Number (right-aligned)
- Centered near the top center of the page
 - Title – Important words only capitalized
- Bottom right corner of the page
 - Student Researchers: Your Name(s)
 - Chapter: Seneca
 - State: SC
 - Category: Based on your project
 - Division: Based on your project

Autistic Children's Perceptions of Equine Therapy

Student Researcher(s): Mallie Moore

Chapter: Seneca

State: SC

Category: Social Sciences

Division: 3 - individual member in grades 9 and 10

Introduction (DUE Wednesday, January 21st)

- Answers the question, "Why was the work done?" Should clearly state:
 - The problem that justifies conducting the research
 - The purpose of the research
 - Its impact on agriculture
 - Findings of earlier work
 - The general approach and objectives
- Follow the example given!
- All parts must be written in PAST tense, except procedure which will be written in FUTURE tense, and in THIRD person.
- One “MEATY” paragraph that includes the following in the following order.
 - **What is already known (3 sentences)**
 - Start with a question
 - Did you *know* that....?
 - Give background information aka facts about what is already known
 - **Purpose (1 sentence)**
 - Therefore, the *purpose* of this experiment is to determine...
 - **Brief procedure followed (2 – 3 sentences)**
 - The *procedure* that will be followed to conduct this experiment includes...
 - **Hypothesis (1 sentence)**
 - Can be stated using either of the following:
 - “*if then*” statement
 - Based on what is known, the *hypothesis* is...
 - **Objective(s) – how can the knowledge gained be used (1 sentence)**
 - The *objective(s)* for this experiment include the following:
(1)..., and (2)...

Introduction

Did you *know* that pet therapy has been proven to make people happier, less depressed, and decrease boredom and anxiety? Pet Therapy has often used in teaching children with autism to develop relationships (Animal Assisted Therapy, 1). Autism is a mental condition, present from early childhood, characterized by difficulty in communicating and forming relationships. Equine therapy is especially essential because it helps them form a bond with the animal that is basically inseparable. Therefore, the *purpose* of this experiment was to determine if Equine Therapy is viewed as an effective therapy by autistic children. The *procedure* that was followed to conduct this experiment includes first making behavior observations of six children with various levels of autism. Next, each will be allowed to pet and groom a therapy horse for a total of 10 minutes. At the end of this timed interaction, the student's behavior was observed and recorded again and they were asked if they thought that Equine Therapy would be an effective method of therapy. Based on what is already known, the *hypothesis* states if the autistic children interact with the therapy horse, then more positive behaviors will be observed and Equine Therapy will be proven to be an effective therapy method. The *objectives* for this experiment include the following: (1) to gain knowledge on whether or not equine therapy has a positive or negative impact on the behavior of autistic children, and (2) to determine if this form of therapy is an effective method of therapy for autistic children.