

Tips for Constructing Bar Graphs (glue on spiral p. ____)

Check off each step as you complete your own bar graph.

- Organize your data in a table. A table makes it easier for you to construct a graph.
- Draw a horizontal (left to right) and vertical axes (top to bottom) on a sheet of graph paper (you may draw a whole rectangle if you want to.)
- Place the category being changed, the **Independent Variable/Manipulated Variable on the horizontal axis (X axis)**. (Horizontal is across the page.)
- Place the measurements that have been made as a result of you changing the Independent Variable/Manipulated Variable, called the **Dependent Variable/Responding Variable, on the vertical axis (Y axis)**. (Vertical is up and down.)
- **Label BOTH axes.** Be sure to
- Determine the scale for the measurements to be shown on the vertical axis. Choose a scale that lets you represent all the values in your data table. Each square on the graph paper will represent a certain amount. All squares have the same value.
- On the horizontal axis, show a bar for each category being represented. **Use an equal number of squares for the width of each bar and leave a space of at least one square between the bars.**
- Using your data, draw in the bars. *Remember, all the bars must have the same width.*
- Write a **title** for your bar graph by changing your testable question into a statement (it has both variables in it).

