

Internal Assessment Initial Topic Selection

Before completing this task:

1. Read the IB Bio IA handbook on Moodle
2. Think about what you would like to investigate:
 - Choose topics that interesting to you; you'll be working on this for a long time!
 - Search for ideas on the internet, but be careful about plagiarizing or copying
 - Think about issues your family deals with; maybe there are personal reasons why a topic might interest you
3. Be aware of ethical and safety considerations
 - In general – only observational studies on animals (including humans)
 - You can't test antibiotics or use non-laboratory strains of bacteria
4. Think about the samples you read – you want a topic where you can control the variables and get reproducible quantitative data.

You need to come up with three (3) potential topics. For each of the three, you should answer the following questions. This should be typed up and you will submit the first day of school (an assignment will be made).

a. Which IB Topic or Option (and subtopic) do you want to investigate in your internal assessment?

For example, topic 1: cell biology

For example, subtopic 1.4: membrane transport

b. Are you going to do a:

- Experiment
- Database analysis
- Simulation analysis

c. In general, what are you thinking about investigating?

This doesn't have to be a formal question but should indicate that you've done some thinking about an experiment, simulation or database analysis that you could do for the internal assessment.

d. Why does this topic or investigation interest you?

Write 3-5 sentences explain why you gravitated towards this topic. Why are you curious about this? Does it relate to your life outside of school? Future career path? Don't make something up.