

Name: _____ Section: _____

Things That Make You Go Hmmm!

As we go through our daily lives it is inevitable that we experience various things that make us curious. However, due to our busy lives we usually decide not to investigate. Here is some incentive to research and explain some common things we have all wondered about. By completing this activity you will earn points that can be applied to your grade.

For this activity you must:

- choose one of the following questions (or some other interesting one)
- research the topic using books, the internet, etc.
- create a typed pamphlet or handout thoroughly answering the question accompanied with a visual and a reference (please do not simply cut and paste text)
- briefly explain it to the class

- Why/how do people yawn?
- Why/how does asparagus make your urine smell like rotten eggs?
- Why/how do people get the hiccups?
- Why/how do people get goose bumps?
- Why/how does the hair on your arms stand up?
- Why/how do elderly people seem to get shorter over time?
- Why/how do some people develop a nice tan while others develop harsh sunburn?
- What causes thunder and lightening?
- Why/how do some people's eyes change color?
- Why/how do we see rainbows?
- Why is it important for astronauts to continually exercise while in space?

- Why must deep-sea divers ascend at a particular rate when in the water?
- Why are amusement park rides limited in size and speed?
- Why/how do your ears “pop” when you increase or decrease your altitude in relationship to sea level?
- How do CDs/DVDs work?
- Why/how does soap remove dirt?
- Any additional thought provoking question you can think of – Requires teacher approval

This activity is offered on a first come, first serve basis, therefore if you are interested in earning the points you may want to consider completing this activity ASAP. It is limited only by the number of possible questions, so it is possible (depending on how many people do it) for this opportunity to last for the entire school year. **However, this assignment must be completed four weeks prior to the end of the quarter.**