

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Physical Science Notes 4  
Graphing Data

1. Draw your axis. Be sure to leave enough room on the left side and bottom of the page to write in numbers and the correct label.
2. Label the axis with x and y.
  - a. The horizontal axis is labeled as x.
  - b. The vertical axis is labeled as y.
3. Label the axis with the proper dependent variable and independent variable. Remember that the dependent variable changes due to the independent variable, not the other way around.
  - a. The independent variable should be placed on the x-axis. Don't forget the units!
  - b. The dependent variable should be placed on the y-axis. Don't forget the units!
4. Choose what number increments will best fit your graph.
  - a. Make sure you expand your graph to fill the page, but chose a number increment that will allow you to plot all data.
  - b. You may choose different increments for the x and y-axis.
5. Write your numbers on the axis.
  - a. Start at the corner where the x and y axis meet and write 0.
  - b. Increase by your chosen increment for each line that goes up (y-axis) or across (x-axis).

6. Plot your data by using dots.

- a. Place a dot where both data from the x-axis and data from the y-axis meet.
- b. Continue doing this all the data in the data table.

7. Draw a line.

- a. Many times you will start at 0 and draw a line from there through your data point(s).
- b. Sometimes you will connect the dots.

8. Give a meaningful title to your graph. This should include both the dependent and independent variables.

Room Temperature			
Time*	Classroom A (degrees C)	Classroom B (degrees C)	Classroom C (degrees C)
0	16	16	16
5	17	17	16.5
10	19	19	17
15	20	21	17.5
20	20	23	18
25	20	25	18.5
*minutes after turning on heat			