## **How to Write a Prospectus**

## What is it?

 Think of a prospectus as a research proposal or as you "selling" your ideas and plans. Generally, it is written before you start your experiment and outlines what you plan to do and how you plan to do it.

## What should be included?

- Background/Purpose
  - Why is this project important? What information needs to be known by the reviewer to understand your project?
- Hypotheses
  - What do you think will happen as a result of your experiment.
     Remember these can look like "if, then" or cause and effect statements.
- Procedure
  - How will you perform your experiment? What materials are needed?
     In what order will you do things? How long do you think each step will take to perform?
- References
  - Where are you finding your information? Make sure to include at least
    a couple sources and give credit where credit is due. Consider
    following the guidelines for APA formatting.

This will be a part of your registration in 4-H Online and you will have roughly 500 words to share this information.

