

Understanding Variables

Variables- The parts of an experiment. Any things that can affect your results in an experiment.

Independent Variable- “I change it” the variable that is changed by the experimenter.

Dependent Variable- “Wait and see” the variable that responds or gives you the answer. This is the variable you measure for your results.

Constants- “Stays the same” all other variables should be kept the same, you only change one variable at a time.

Example:

How does the color of paint affect how long the paint lasts.

Independent Variable- “I change it” is *color of paint*

Dependent Variable- “Wait and see” is *how long the paint lasts*

Constants- “Stays the same” are all other variables:

- Brand of paint
- Type of paint
- Surface painted
- Type of brush
- Where the painted surfaces are
- ? Can you think of more?