

**Student Activity Worksheet: Confounding Life and Science Research**

**Directions:** Please answer the following questions related to confounding factors in your own life and in science research.

**Confounding factors**

1. Think about a recent athletic, musical, theatrical or other performance or presentation you have given. What are factors or extraneous variables that impacted your performance? Did you try to control for these factors? If so, how? Is it important to control for these factors? Why or why not?

2. What is a confounding factor or extraneous variable in scientific research? Why should possible confounding factors be controlled for in a research study? What's the result of having confounding factors that aren't controlled for?

