**NAME: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

1. **Data Analysis Scaffolding Sheet – Choosing a Research Question (RQ)**
2. Choose a format for your research question. Your two choices are:

Option 1: ***Is there a significant difference in [dependent variable] between [this] and [that]?***

Option 2: ***Is there a linear relationship between [dependent variable] and [independent variable]?***

1. Look at the class data from the excursion. Decide on a dependent and independent variable. Fill in the blanks of your research question in the box below.

My research question is:

*Note*: **If you chose option 1** (is there a significant difference….), your dependent variable must be numerical continuous quantitative data (y-axis) and your independent variable must be categorical data (e.g. high tide, low tide). Only pick TWO things to compare (not three). One for [this] and one for [that]. The two you choose for [this] and [that] will be your 2 columns on the column graph. The dependent variable you choose (y-axis) will determine the height of the column.

*Note:* **If you chose option 2** (is there a linear relationship between….), both your dependent and independent variable data must be continuous data (fits on a number line) as opposed to categorical data (e.g. low tide, high tide). These will become your x and y coordinates for a dot on the graph. E.g. is there a linear relationship between abundance of limpets and abundance of mulberry whelks?

1. If not already, edit your research question to make your dependent variable and independent variable much more specific (e.g. add species name, place, etc.). Write your edited RQ in the box below.
2. Hand it in to the teacher for marking and feedback ☺