

**INVESTIGATION QUESTION**

How do stars produce the elements that make up living things?

**HYPOTHESIS**

*Hint: try writing it as "If \_\_\_\_, then \_\_\_\_, because \_\_\_\_."*

**MATERIALS**

*play dough in multiple colors, marble or foil ball*

**PROCEDURE**

*Summarize what you did in your own words.*

**Element Tracking Table**

Color Used	Element It Represents	Where It Forms in the Star

**ANALYSIS**

*What happened when you pressed two colors together? Could you separate them back out? What does that tell you about nuclear fusion in a real star?*

**CONCLUSION**

*Was your hypothesis correct? What is the connection between stars dying and life existing on Earth?*

**CONNECT IT**

*Pick one element in your body -- iron, carbon, calcium, oxygen, or nitrogen. Research what type of star produced it and write two sentences about what you found.*

**THINK FURTHER**

*Some elements only form in supernova explosions. What does that mean for how common the ingredients for life are in the universe?*

**ADDITIONAL NOTES**