



Emerging Caribbean Scientists Programs

How to Write an Abstract

An abstract is a summary of your presentation or paper in 10-15 sentences.

The length varies (read the guidelines), but is usually about 200-250 words

The abstract includes 1-3 sentences summarizing each section of the presentation or paper. The components of the abstract are:

1. Title: Should reveal your main finding
2. Author & mentor
3. Introduction: Tell why we should care about this issue. Give necessary background information. Give question or hypothesis, and perhaps predictions.
4. Methods: Summarize the techniques used to get your results. Skip the technical details, but do mention your statistical test(s).
5. Results: Summarize the data, including results of statistical test(s).
6. Conclusion: Explain the implications of your data.
7. You may need to acknowledge funding sources

What else do you need to do:

- Get a friend to proofread! Grammar and readability are important.
- Get your mentor to read it! You may need his/her approval, and it's good to have another proofreader.