* **1. experiment:** a special kind of investigation that uses steps of the scientific method to test a hypothesis and uses constant variables.
* **2. scientific investigation:** the act or process of investigating; a careful search or examination in order to discover facts, etc.
* **3. Empirical evidence**: is factual information – not personal opinions- that is based on observation.

YOUR TURN!

Decide whether each is an example of an EXPERIMENT – OR - NOT AN EXPERIMENT and justify or prove your answers to be right.

* Observing temperature changes throughout the day on the playground.
* Researching the best way to germinate seeds using the Internet.
* Finding out if mealworms prefer light or **dark** by testing it.
* Recording the number of birds that visit a feeder at the same time each day.
* Observing a group of people to find out if they put a puzzle together faster if they practice first.