When you think about what a scientist looks like, do you picture an older man with crazy hair, a lab coat, and bubbling beakers? Many people do! But anyone can be a scientist! When you ask questions about the world around you, make observations, look for information, try to figure out how something works, or try to solve a problem, you are acting like a scientist.

For your homework assignment this week, draw a picture of yourself as a scientist on an 8 ½ by 11 sheet of white paper. Place your name in the bottom right corner. These will be displayed in the hallway so be sure to use color and do your best work!

Here are some things to think about to help you get started:

- **What are you interested in?** Cats, dogs, penguins, birds, bugs, sharks, chemistry, outer space, weather, medicine, rockets, dinosaurs, flowers, trees, marine life, rocks, etc…

- **Where will you do your work?** What will your scenery show? Will it show you in a jungle, desert, forest, lab, the Arctic, underwater, outer space, zoo, classroom, office, etc…?

- **What kind of equipment?** What tools do you need to do your work?

- **What are you wearing?** This depends on where you will be working and what you are doing.

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The creator of SpongeBob SquarePants, Stephen Hillenburg, was a marine biologist and an educator before he created SpongeBob? He is a scientist and an artist!

www.middleschoolscience.com 2008