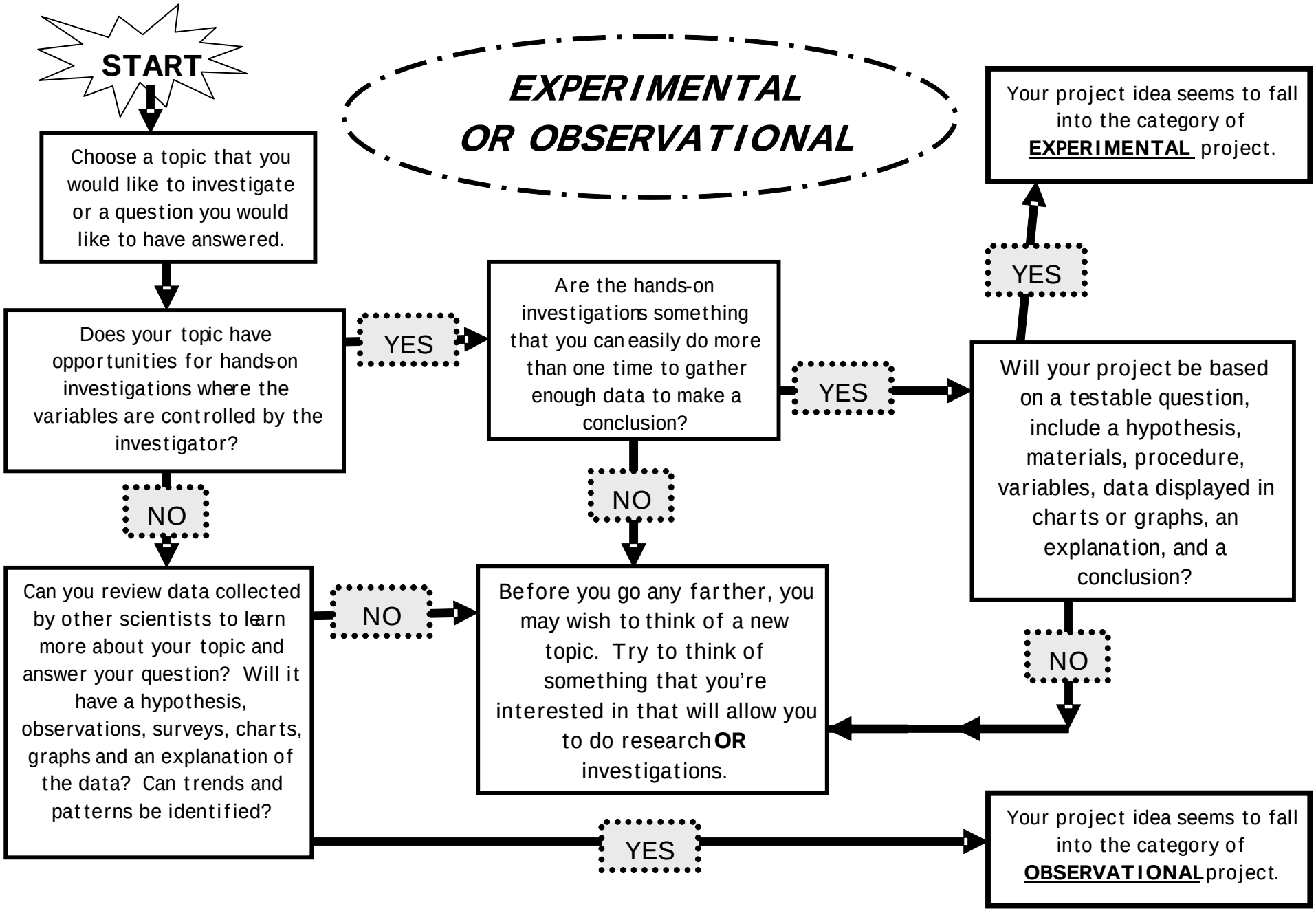
START
EXPERIMENTAL OR OBSERVATIONAL
Choose a topic that you would like to investigate or a question you would like to have answered.
Does your topic have opportunities for hands-on investigations where the variables are controlled by the investigator?
YES
Are the hands-on investigations something that you can easily do more than one time to gather enough data to make a conclusion?
YES
Will your project be based on a testable question, include a hypothesis, materials, procedure, variables, data displayed in charts or graphs, an explanation, and a conclusion?
YES
Your project idea seems to fall into the category of EXPERIMENTAL project.
NO
NO
NO
Can you review data collected by other scientists to learn more about your topic and answer your question? Will it have a hypothesis, observations, surveys, charts, graphs and an explanation of the data? Can trends and patterns be identified?
NO
Before you go any farther, you may wish to think of a new topic. Try to think of something that you're interested in that will allow you to do research OR investigations.
YES
Your project idea seems to fall into the category of OBSERVATIONAL project.