

The Science Fair Nitty-gritty

- * Use a plastic report cover for the detailed final draft of your research paper. This report will be placed on the table with your display, and may be used by the judges evaluating your work. Be neat.
- * If this paper is handwritten, you must use Blue or black ink. Write using your best cursive handwriting. Do not skip lines. Use only one side of the paper.
- * If typed, double space. Use only one side of each piece of paper. Set margins at 1 1/2" on the left side and 1" at the right margin.
- * Your logbook will be used to record data and results and thoughts and questions you have during the time you are working on your project. It will be an important reference tool when you write up your report. Use metric measurements and SI units.
- * Cover page - an unlined piece of paper, with the complete title centered and with your name, school, and grade in the lower right hand corner
- * Abstract - 3 or 4 paragraphs, about 250 words, that explains # 1: the problem investigated and the hypothesis, #2: the procedure followed in the investigation, and #3: a summary of the data collected and the conclusions based on the data collection
- * Background information / Literature review - a 2 or three page report about information of your topic taken from your index cards and your research
- * Hypothesis - please make two copies, one for the display board and one for your report which will be placed with the display board
- * Materials list - also two copies
- * Procedure - two copies; this is a step by step explanation of how the experiment was done. Be sure to explain things you did to make it a controlled experiment (ie. discuss the variables).
- * Data chart - two copies of the data you collect; show this in chart form
- * Graphs - two copies of any you make to show your results
- * Conclusion - two copies of this paragraph. Was your hypothesis correct? What do the results show? How could you improve the materials or methods used in the experiment? Mention ideas you have for further study.
- * Bibliography - (from your index cards) - List the sources from which you got your information (encyclopedias, books, personal contacts, etc). Include authors, volumes, year, page numbers, etc. List them in alphabetical order.
- * Acknowledgments - Thank the people and places that helped you. Briefly mention how each one helped.
- * Oral presentation - practice your presentation at home. Remember you will be judged on: Knowledge gained, clear expression, originality, and Scientific method.