Displaying Your Project

Your presentation board should have:

1. A GOOD, EYE-CATCHING TITLE
2. LABELS FOR EACH STEP OF THE SCIENTIFIC METHOD
3. DRAWINGS, GRAPHS, PHOTOGRAPHS, SAMPLES (OF PROCEDURE, RESULTS, ETC.)
4. CLEARLY STATED, BUT BRIEF WRITTEN SECTIONS

Your presentation should be:

1. STURDY
2. ATTRACTIVE
3. WELL ORGANIZED
4. DESIGNED TO SIT ON TOP OF A TABLE: Not to be larger than 42 inches (122 cm) in length, by 42 inches (122 cm) in height, by 25 inches (76 cm) in depth
Display Board Comments

- **Photographs:** Projects utilizing photos usually are very impressive.

- **Background Color:** Most students are typing the elements of their report on white paper and purchasing white display boards. This seems to create a display that is, overall, pretty bland. The colored project boards really stand out. There is no price difference between the white and colored project board so might as well go with color.

- **Title:** Titles should be large, centered, and eye catching. They should be easily read from across the room!

- **Font Choice:** Fonts should be sans serif and probably larger than 18 point for paragraph text.

- **Paper Cutter:** Avoid "crazy cutting". Using a scrapbook cutter will help with straight cuts.

- **Glue Issues:** No messy gluing! Use glue sticks so the paper does not get "wavy" after they adhere their project elements. Also, kids should wash their hands before gluing things to prevent "grey glue goop"!

- **Excel:** Lots of kids are trying to create graphs. Excel can create these graphs for them. The process is easy and does not require much time.
Judging

You will be presenting your project to your class, and to a judge. Be prepared to discuss the various steps you followed to complete your project. Practice explaining your project to someone. This will help you be calm on “The Big Day”. The judges are very nice and will be interested in what you did and what you learned.

The judges may ask you any or all of the following questions:
1. How did you come up with your project idea?
2. What is your variable?
3. What did you learn from your project?
4. How close were your hypothesis and conclusion?
5. Did you learn anything new from your project?
6. What was the most interesting part of completing your project?

Planning the Oral Presentation

The oral presentation is a very important part of your project. Practice will make the difference in how well you present yourself AND your project. Rehearse in front of a mirror, and then make a practice presentation before a “live” audience! (Family and friends are great for this!) The following things should be included in your oral presentation:

1. Make introductions.
   First, introduce yourself. “Hello. My name is ____.” (Shake the judge’s hand!) Next, introduce the project. “The title of my project is ____.” Then explain all the parts of your project. These should all be shown on your display!

2. Show your results.
   If you have a log, charts, or graphs, show them to the judges. If they are on the display, point them out and explain each.

3. Explain your conclusion.
   If you feel you had some problems with experimentation, don't be afraid to talk about them. Even the best scientists have to overcome obstacles along the road to discovery.

4. Discuss what you learned.
   Tell what you discovered about the topic or about the scientific process itself. Explain what you would do differently if you were to repeat this experiment or conduct another.

5. Invite questions.
   Ask the judges if they have any questions or items they would like explained further.

6. Say thank you!
   Don't forget to thank your listeners for their attention and interest.
Name: _________________________________

Class: _________________________________

What are some things that I did well on my Science Fair Project?

✓ _________________________________________
  _________________________________________
  _________________________________________

✓ _________________________________________
  _________________________________________
  _________________________________________

What are some things I could improve on?

✓ _________________________________________
  _________________________________________
  _________________________________________

✓ _________________________________________
  _________________________________________
  _________________________________________
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge Gained</td>
<td>Demonstrates little/no scientific knowledge/skills.</td>
<td>Shows partial understanding of scientific skills.</td>
<td>Clearly demonstrates scientific skills necessary to carry out an experiment.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Experimental Design and Planning</td>
<td>Experiment is a demonstration, model, or obviously wasn’t planned.</td>
<td>Experimental plan and question are evident but may be weak in design or concept.</td>
<td>Experimental plan is thorough and contains a well-defined question and a clear procedure to carry out experiment.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Experimental Approach</td>
<td>Experiment was not conducted.</td>
<td>Student conducted experiment but may have compromised experiment validity in the process.</td>
<td>Student conducted a valid scientific experiment from start to finish.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Validity of Data and Conclusion</td>
<td>No valid data is collected and/or conclusion completely contradicts data.</td>
<td>Conclusion has valid points, but is not totally consistent with the data.</td>
<td>Conclusion is supported by the data/observation collected.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Variable Knowledge</td>
<td>Little or no variable knowledge demonstrated.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Very knowledgeable. There is one independent variable which the student is able to identify.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Display Information</td>
<td>Missing essential information (title, results, conclusion, etc.) May have many distracting spelling or grammar errors.</td>
<td>Main steps of the scientific method are present. (title, question/purpose, procedure, results, conclusion) May have a few distracting spelling errors.</td>
<td>All elements present. (title, question/purpose, procedure, results, conclusion) Includes graphs or tables. Photographs may be included or used as data in qualitative experiments.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral Presentation</td>
<td>Little eye contact. Did not know project well enough to relay meaningful information.</td>
<td>Relied heavily on notes or read right from board frequently.</td>
<td>Frequent eye contact. Little use of notes.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Orange Ribbon Candidate? Yes No

Cumulative Score_______