

Congratulations! You have decided to enter Science Fair. The following guidelines will help you understand the Scientific Method.

**All experiments should be turned in at the Gymnasium on Monday, March 12<sup>th</sup> (the day prior to Science Fair). We will be there to check-in experiments from 2:30 until 6:30 pm. Science Fair is Tuesday, March 13<sup>th</sup>.**

You will present your experiment during during your PE bell. This is when the judging occurs.

Science Fair awards occur the evening of the 13<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6:30 pm. We start in the gym and ask that your child stay close to their project in order to answer questions from others viewing the experiments.

Please contact us with any questions.

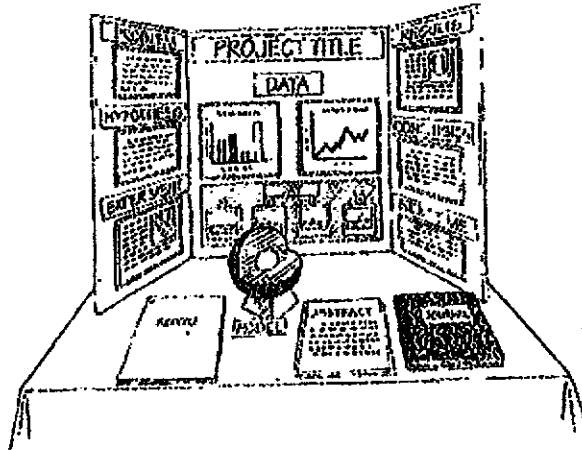
Good luck!

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## SO YOU'VE DECIDED TO ENTER THE SCIENCE FAIR. GOOD FOR YOU!

Here are step-by-step instructions on the format of your project. The below illustration shows how your project should be displayed. Please put your name on **THE BACK** of your display board. Your name cannot be seen by the judges.



### **Project Title**

What is the idea behind your science project? What are you trying to find out?

#### **Steps using the Scientific Method:**

- 1. Problem:** Identify the "what if" question. Exactly what are you trying to figure out? Keep it simple so that it is easier to keep track of your results and maintain consistent conditions throughout the experiment.
- 2. Hypothesis:** Make a prediction about what you think will happen in your experiment. It is important to be as specific as possible. However, it is NOT important that your hypothesis agree with your results. Many times, results are not what scientists expect, which means that the scientist has made a discovery!
- 3. Experiment:** Make observations or test your hypothesis. Think of your procedure as a recipe that another scientist could follow based on your explanations.
  - \* Include detailed procedures for the experiment.
  - \* Include a list of the materials and equipment you will use.
  - \* Be clear about the **variable** (part of the experiment that changes to test your prediction) and **controls** (parts of the experiment that do not change).
  - \* Be specific about how you plan to measure your results.
- 4. Data / Results:** Collect and write down the specific information or data that resulted from your experiment. Some of your data should be described in numbers. For example, indicate the exact measurement that something has increased, such as "1 centimeter", rather than stating "it got bigger". You may want to include a graph or chart that will make a picture of your results.
- 5. Conclusion:** In a few sentences, describe what you learned from doing the experiment and what the results mean. You should also discuss if your Hypothesis was correct or incorrect. Think along the lines of, "here's what I thought was going to happen, and here's what actually happened."

6. **Presentation:** Be prepared to explain your experiment to the judges and answer their questions. This should be just one or two sentences that address the problem and the conclusion.