

## Science Fair Experiments should include the 6 following steps:

**Problem:** This is what you want to discover. It must be a written question. Make sure that you have chosen an actual experiment (NO DEMONSTRATIONS). Also, your experiment must be **measurable**. Thus, don't ask which brand or material is the "best." Use a word that you are measuring.

If you are not comparing something, then it is a demonstration and not an experiment. You have to be able to measure or graph the results. Also, you can't measure if something is the "best." You can measure which lasts the longest, absorbs the most, goes the farthest, etc.

**Hypothesis (Prediction):** This is what you think the answer will be to your question. It is a statement of your educated guess. Do not use "I," "me," or "my."

Non-example: "I think Bounty will hold more weight than Sparkle."

Example: "Bounty will hold more weight than Sparkle."

**IMPORTANT: When your proposal is approved, you will need to make sure that you include everything listed for a Science Experiment. Make sure that it is turned in on time and complete. You can choose if you want to submit your project for Science Fair judging or not.**

**Materials:** List everything needed for the experiment. Your list should tell how much, how many, what kind, or what size for every item listed. Fifth grade students are expected to **use metric measurements only**. Include any instruments used to measure the results.

**Procedure:** This is a list of numbered steps followed during the experiment. Do not use "I," "me," or "my." Be sure to tell how to set up the materials and what to do. Tell how to measure the results.

**Data/ Observations:** Fifth grade students must include **both a data table and a graph** of recorded results. The experiment needs at least 3 trials or samples and should include all measurements and observations.

**Conclusion:** This is a summary stating your findings. Was your hypothesis accepted or rejected? How can this information be useful in the real world? What did you learn?

**Judging Criteria:** ① Valid question/ testable problem, ② Clearly stated hypothesis, ③ Materials listed, ④ Steps in the procedure are clear, ⑤ Data gathered is clearly presented, ⑥ Conclusion refers to hypothesis, accurately reflects data with evidence of learning or application, ⑦ Display is neat/attractive, evidence of time/effort, & turned in on time, and ⑧ Presentation (Your child's ability to explain the experiment and what was learned.)

Name - \_\_\_\_\_

**Science Project Proposal**

The Science Project will be graded in 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

It's optional for all other grade levels

**Due Tuesday January 21<sup>st</sup> or earlier**

The question or problem I would like to investigate is

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My hypothesis (or prediction) is

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I have a plan for the materials I will use and the procedure I will follow, and my parent(s) have approved.

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Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Your Science Project idea is:       approved       not approved

Teacher Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Comments (if not approved):

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**Completed Science Project due Tuesday, February 18 at 7:30 a.m.**