

Information for Students About Science Fair Projects

A Successful Science Project:

1. Represents your work—not that of an expert or your parents
2. Indicates an understanding of the science area chosen
3. Shows careful planning that would eliminate a “rush” project
4. Has a notebook showing a complete record of all your work
5. Has a simple, well-stated title and neat lettering
6. Includes photographs, charts, pictures, graphs, etc., that might be necessary to explain your work
7. Has accurate, valid, and correct observations
8. Tells a complete story—Problem and Solution
9. Is original in approach and presentation
10. Is self-explanatory
11. Is attractive and organized
12. Does not have to cost much money
13. Is best if it is an experiment, but it doesn't have to be
14. Is one that gives credit to those who gave help

A Science Fair Project is Not:

1. Only a report
2. Necessarily a new discovery or an original piece of research
3. Constructing a plastic model from a hobby kit
4. An enlarged model or drawing
5. A week-end chore
6. One, two, or even three posters
7. Something done by your parents or teacher

Steps in Making a Science Project:

1. Choose a topic and discuss it with your teacher. Ask your teacher for help and suggestions.
2. Once you have chosen your topic problem, find out as much about the topic as possible.
3. Keep a project notebook and record all of your thought, preparations, and ideas. Keep a record of your readings.
4. Set up a work area somewhere around your house where you can work on your project. Make sure the area is off limits to your pets or younger brothers and sisters.
5. Work on your project a little each day, don't wait until the last minute.
6. Collect the materials needed for the project.
7. Check with your teacher for suggestions and materials, he or she can save you time, excess, work, and money.
8. Construct your exhibit and make letters for your signs.
9. Mount your pictures, graphs, charts, etc.
10. Present your science project at the fair.

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