



Elementary STEM Fair Judging Criteria Scientific Investigation

Project Title:	Project #:	Judge:
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Project Elements	Description of Criteria	0 Inc	1 NI	2 ME	3 EX
Testable Question	Identifies the project as a <u>Scientific Investigation</u> OR an Engineering Design. Asks a specific, measurable, cause & effect question				
Background Research	Describes why this project was selected and describes research. Shows evidence of understanding the project and can explain why project is important. Identifies a variety of sources that guided the research.				
Hypothesis	Predicts a reasonable outcome as a result of a specific change				
Identifying Variables	Identifies independent variable, dependent variable				
	Identifies conditions/controls				
Procedures	Describe the process and/or explain in detail the development of the prototype. High score would indicate that the project can be repeated after reading.				
Trials	At least 5 trials are shown				
Data Collection	Use of photos/charts/graphs/illustrations to show data and Data is clearly labeled				
	Data measurements were done precisely				
Conclusion	Written reflection that describes what the student has learned. Were there any surprises? What would you do differently or to continue the project?				
	Explains what was done throughout the project. Communicates problems and identifies potential sources of error Defends the connection between their results and conclusions. Explains where the research can lead in the future (or not lead in the future), and why				
Abstract	Written summary of the entire investigation.				
Backboard	All components are present and is visually interesting. (<i>question or problem, hypothesis, abstract, resources cited, title and authors, testing and planning, data and results, conclusion</i>)				
Research Log	Completed in its entirety including a log of scientific notes and thinking taken throughout the project.				

Recommended Place: 1st 2nd 3rd 4th	Total:
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Overall Comments: