

Name: _____

Science Fair Progress

For each step of each phase of the science project, mark the date it is due and the date you completed your work. Reward yourself for your hard work!

| Phase 1-Generating an idea | Due Date | Date Accomplished |
|---|-----------------|--------------------------|
| I took the interest survey in google classroom. | | |
| I brainstormed 5 possible topics and wrote them in my notebook. | | |
| I came up with 2 investigative questions for each topic. | | |
| I talked with my teacher and parents about project possibilities. | | |
| I chose a topic and formed a hypothesis. | | |

Hooray! You completed Phase 1- now you are on your way!

| Phase 2 Reasearching and Planning | Date Due | Date Accomplished |
|---|-----------------|--------------------------|
| I researched my hypothesis. I found three sources of information either books, articles, or websites. | | |
| I have read some research and taken notes in my notebook. | | |
| I changed my hypothesis based on my research and showed Mrs. Simmons. | | |
| I went over the Porocedural Plan for action with my partner and showed my parents, and obtained signatures. | | |
| I developed the initial plan for display materials. | | |

Way to go! You've completed phase 2-give yourself a pat on the back!

Comments: _____

| Phase 3- Data Collection and Analysis | Date Due | Date Accomplished |
|---|-----------------|--------------------------|
| I conducted the experiment safely. | | |
| I chose the appropriate sample size. | | |
| I performed several trials of my experiment. | | |
| I collected data accurately. | | |
| I recorded all data and observations in my science project journal. | | |
| I graphed and/or charted data and looked for trends. | | |
| I prepared a written conclusion supported by data. | | |

WOOHOO! You have finished Phase 3- You are half way there!

| Phase 4-Writing a Report | Due Date | Date Accomplished |
|---|-----------------|--------------------------|
| I have written a report that includes a title page, abstract, table of contents, Question, variable, and hypothesis, background research, materials lists, experiment procedure, data analysis and discussion, conclusions. | | |
| I have followed the final report checklist and my parents have signed off. | | |
| I have added a bibliography. | | |
| I have edited and written a final draft. | | |
| I have turned in the final draft of my written report. | | |

Last Part Next! You are almost done!

| Phase 5-Create and exhibiting a Display | Due Date | Date Accomplished |
|---|-----------------|--------------------------|
| I sketched possible ideas for my display. | | |
| I created a display board with all my information. | | |
| I displayed the results in a clear and interesting manner. My display is neat and kid created. | | |
| I am able to give an oral presentation as practice for my science fair project. | | |

| Science Project Topics to Avoid | Why |
|---|---|
| Any topic that boils down to a simple preference or taste comparison. For example, "Which tastes better: Coke or Pepsi?" | Such experiments do not involve the kinds of numerical measurements you want in a science fair project. They are more of a survey than an experiment. |
| Most consumer product testing of the "Which is best?" type. This includes comparisons of popcorn, bubblegum, makeup, detergents, cleaning products, and paper towels. | These projects only have scientific validity if the investigator fully understands the science behind why the product works and applies that understanding to the experiment. While many consumer products are easy to use, the science behind them is often at the level of a graduate student in college. |
| Any topic that requires people to recall things they did in the past. | The data tends to be unreliable. |
| Effect of colored light on plants. | Several people do this project at almost every science fair. You can be more creative! |
| Effect of music or talking on plants. | Difficult to measure. |
| Effect of running, music, video games, or almost anything on blood pressure. | The result is either obvious (the heart beats faster when you run) or difficult to measure with proper controls (the effect of music). |
| Effect of color on memory, emotion, mood, taste, strength, etcetera. | Highly subjective and difficult to measure. |
| Any topic that requires measurements that will be extremely difficult to make or repeat, given your equipment. | Without measurement, you cannot do science. |

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| Graphology or handwriting analysis. | Questionable scientific validity. |
| Astrology or ESP. | No scientific validity. |
| Any topic that requires dangerous, hard-to-find, expensive, or illegal materials. | Violates the rules of virtually any science fair. |
| Any topic that requires drugging, pain, or injury to a live vertebrate animal. | Violates the rules of virtually any science fair. |
| Any topic that creates unacceptable risk (physical or psychological) to a human subject. | Violates the rules of virtually any science fair. |
| Any topic that involves collection of tissue samples from living humans or vertebrate animals. | Violates the rules of virtually any science fair. |