



# Science Fair Research Projects (K – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade)

## Rubric for School Site Science Fair

	<b>Attempted 1</b>	<b>Proficient 3</b>	<b>Advanced Proficient 5</b>
<b>Purpose and Problem</b> <i>(Double Points)</i> <b>(x2)</b>	The Purpose and Problem are vague, or have no apparent connection to the student's interest or experience, or address an issue to which the student already knows the answer.	States the Purpose and Problem clearly, showing some connection to a valid scientific or mathematical concept. May give evidence of connection to a specific interest or experience of the student, and appears to represent a genuine learning opportunity for the student.	States the Purpose and Problem clearly, addressing a valid scientific or mathematical concept. Provides evidence that they come from the student's personal interests or experiences, and represent a genuine learning opportunity for the student.
<b>Hypothesis</b> <i>(Double Points)</i> <b>(x2)</b>	Hypothesis is either incomplete, not testable, or does not connect to the stated problem.	Hypothesis is complete (in one sentence), testable, and addresses the stated problem without reflecting prior knowledge.	Hypothesis is complete (in one sentence), testable, directly addressing the stated problem, and reflects prior knowledge.
<b>Research</b> <i>(Triple Points)</i> <b>(x3)</b>	Cites only one source. Or, the description of the research is incomplete, or has little or no connection to the problem or hypothesis, or is not written in the student's own words.	Cites two or more sources from one or more types of resources (e.g., text, encyclopedia, businesses, magazines, catalogs, internet, or interviews). The student adequately connects the research to their problem and hypothesis in their own words.	Cites four or more sources. There are at least three different types of resources. The student makes clear, in-depth connections between the research and their problem and hypothesis in their own words.
<b>Conclusions</b>	Conclusion does not answer the problem, or does not refer back to the hypothesis, or contradicts the evidence found in the research.	Conclusion answers the problem, states if the hypothesis was supported or rejected, and attempts to explain why.	Conclusion completely answers all aspects of the problem, states if the hypothesis was supported or rejected, and clearly cites evidence to explain why.
<b>Visual Quality of Display</b>	Project has limited eye appeal or is not easily readable at approximately two feet distance. The project has limited organization, or contains confusing visuals, or contains major language or spelling errors.	Project is appealing and readable at approximately 2 feet distance. It is organized and clear, uses understandable visuals and/or models, and contains few language and spelling errors.	Project is appealing and neat, and is readable at approximately 2 feet distance. It is well organized and clear, makes striking use of inventive or amusing visuals and/or models, and uses language and spelling flawlessly.
<b>Sources</b> <i>(at the end of the written report)</i>	Sources at the end of the written report are listed by title only, or represent an incomplete list.	All sources are listed with most of the information given, i.e., name, title, web address, date (as shown on pp. 19 and 20 in the Elementary Sci. Fair Handbook). However, some useful information may be missing.	All sources are listed with complete information given, i.e., name, title, web address, date (as shown on pp. 19 and 20 in the Elementary Sci. Fair Handbook). One could easily find any of the sources as listed.

(Projects will receive between 10 and 50 points when all rubric criteria have been addressed.)

