



# Science Fair *Experimental Projects* (3<sup>rd</sup> – 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>Problem</b>  <i>(Double Points)</i> <b>(x2)</b>	States the problem as a question that is vague, or as a statement, or addresses an issue to which the student already knows the answer.	States problem as a question, and while there is no evidence of connection to a specific interest or experience of the student, it appears to represent a genuine learning opportunity for the student.	States problem as a question, provides evidence that it comes from the student's personal interests or experiences, and represents a genuine learning opportunity for the student.
<b>Preliminary Research</b>	Cites only one source. Or, the description of the research is incomplete, or has little or no connection to the problem, 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 generally connects the research to their problem in their own words.	Cites two or more sources. Different types of sources are cited. The student clearly connects the research to their problem in their own words.
<b>Hypothesis</b>  <i>(Double Points)</i> <b>(x2)</b>	Hypothesis is either not testable or does not connect to the stated problem, or shows no connection to the research.	Hypothesis is brief and complete, testable, addresses the stated problem, and shows some connection to the research.	Hypothesis is brief and complete, testable, and clearly addresses the stated problem. Student shows a direct connection to their research.
<b>Procedure &amp; Materials</b>	Experimental design is not relevant to the hypothesis or the procedures outlined are seriously incomplete or not sequential, or materials list is missing or incomplete.	Experimental design is adequate to test the hypothesis, but may leave some unanswered questions. Procedures are outlined in a step-by-step fashion, but there may be 1 or 2 gaps that require explanation. Major materials are listed.	Experimental design is a well-constructed test of the stated hypothesis. Procedures are outlined in a step-by-step fashion that could be followed by anyone without additional explanations. All relevant materials are listed.
<b>Results</b>  <i>(Double Points)</i> <b>(x2)</b>	Performed experiment only once and data are not summarized clearly. Or, does not discuss any relationship between variables or note any pattern or trend.	Performed experiment one or more times. Summarizes the data in a way that describes what was discovered using graphs and charts with few errors or omissions. Mentions at least on relationship between variables or points out a pattern.	Performed experiment several times. Summarizes the data in a way that describes what was discovered using graphs and charts with no errors or omissions. Discusses connections between variables or points out any patterns.
<b>Conclusions</b>	Conclusion does not answer the problem, or does not refer back to the hypothesis, or contradicts the evidence collected.	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.

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

