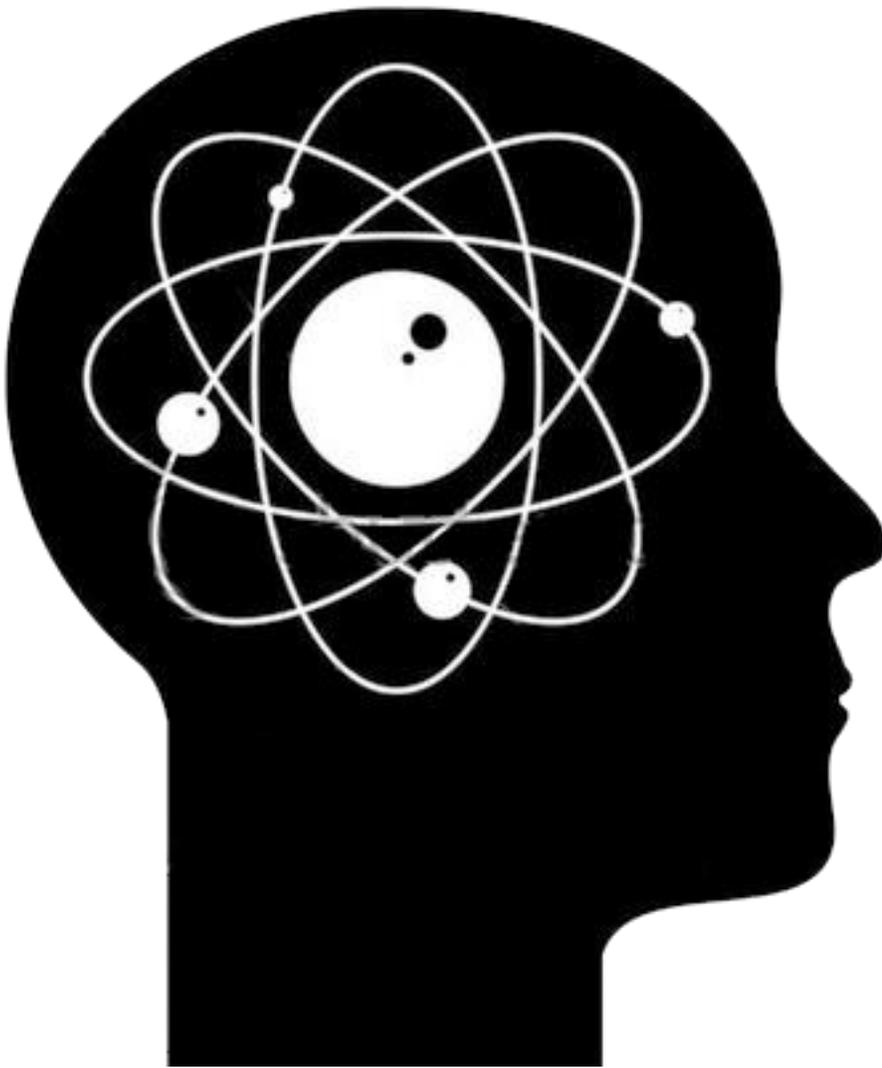


RESEARCH

PUTTING TOGETHER A SCIENCE FAIR

RESEARCH PROJECT

For Kindergarten-6th Grade



What are you curious about?

Hopedale Memorial Science Fair



Helpful Hints for Students

- ❖ **Start EARLY; don't wait until the last two weeks before it is due.**

- ❖ **Plan it out. It will be much more fun if you spread the time out over several days per week or several weekends, and you won't have to race to get it done! It might look like this:**
 - Week 1 – Decide on your PROBLEM (QUESTION) – what you want to find out.**

 - Week 2 – Collect and gather materials about your topic.**

 - Week 3 – Work the steps of your project – Sort, observe, record data.**

 - Week 4 – Think about the results and what they tell you.**

 - Week 5 – Make your display.**

- ❖ **This is to be a fun process. “Success” is a completed project where you had fun and learned a lot.**

- ❖ **Enjoy the fun!**

RESEARCH PROJECT

***** A Research science project is one where you will learn all about a science topic or concept that you are personally interested in by reading books & magazines, going to libraries or other institutions, talking to an expert in the field, and more. Your display board will support your research with photos, drawings, diagrams, dioramas, etc.**

TITLE PAGE: Name for Project, First and last name(s), Teacher(s), Grade

PURPOSE: In three sentences or less, tell why you did your science project on the topic you chose.

PROBLEM: State the problem in the form of a question. The problem is one sentence long and specific.

HYPOTHESIS: A hypothesis is what you think will be the answer to your question. It is your “best guess” before you actually DO the research. It is written as one sentence. Examples: You are taller in the morning than at night.

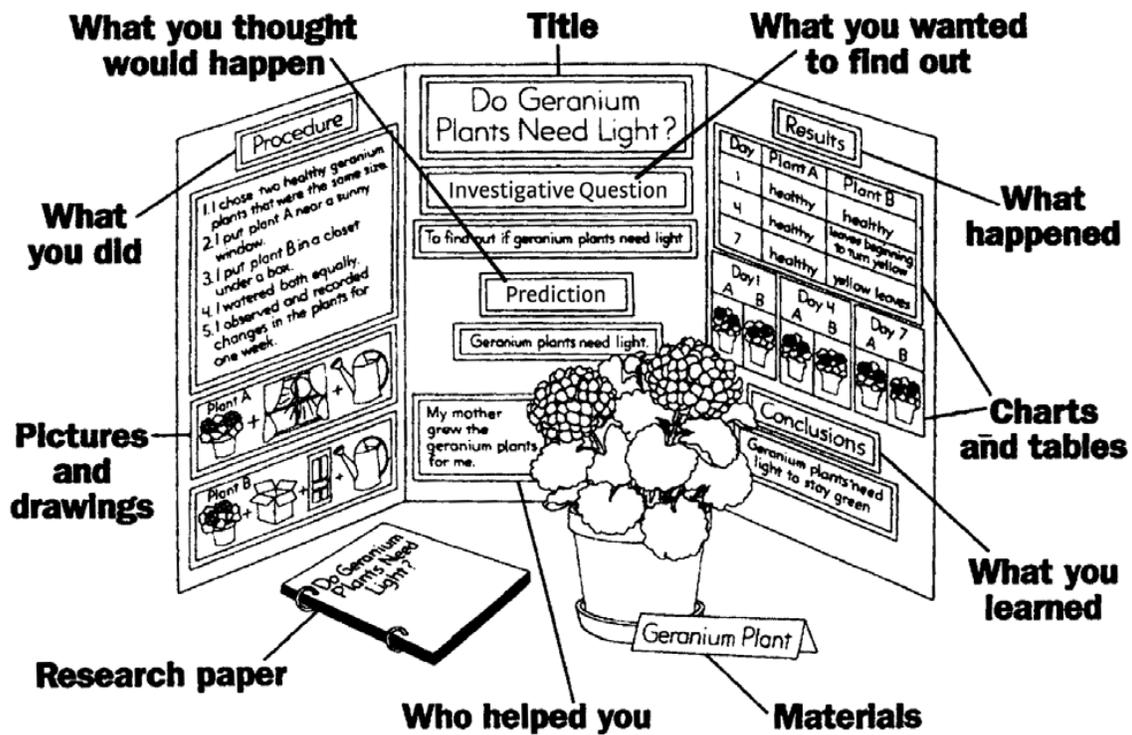
RESEARCH: It is now time to use information from books, magazines, interviews, etc. This section is your report on the work and research conducted by others that relates to your topic.

CONCLUSION

Look over your research. Analyze the information and see what it tells you about your topic. The conclusion answers the hypothesis. Does your research prove or disprove your hypothesis? The conclusion is one or two sentences long and should either confirm or reject your hypothesis.

APPLICATION: Now that you have finished your project, use this section to share with others your thoughts about this experience. Did you have any problems? What would you do differently next time? Explain how what you learned from your project applies to the real world.

SOURCES / BIBLIOGRAPHY: List all books, articles, pamphlets and other communications or sources that you used for researching your topic and writing your paper.



RESEARCH

DISPLAY INFORMATION

CREATING YOUR DISPLAY

The display is the set-up you'll use on fair day. When you make your display board, remember that this board will be your audience's first impression of your science fair project. It is a display that tells the story of all your efforts. So keep it simple, very neat and well-organized. The display board must be sturdy and stand by itself on a table. Foam core-board and cardboard are the best materials.

1. When display board is laid open and flat, it should be no more than 48 inches wide.
2. Side panels should be 12 to 18 inches.
3. Height should be no more than 48 inches.

LETTERING

The subtitles which are mandatory on the display board are: Problem, Hypothesis, Procedure, Results, Conclusion, and Application. All items on the display must be glued to the board. Do not use pins, tacks, staples, or tape.

DISPLAY ITEMS

Your display should include your actual collection itself, or something that represents it, such as drawings, photos, or samples of what you collected. These should be placed in front of, or on, the display board. This is where photos and drawings done while working on your collection project would be a great addition.

SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS: No part of your display may pose a safety hazard. Do not include harmful chemicals, bacterial cultures, sharp objects, or any source of heat or flames. No live or preserved animals are allowed.

Research Projects

(K–6th Grade)

Targets for an Excellent Science Fair Project

Purpose and Problem: Describe what interests you about this topic. Ask a question where you do not know that answer.

Hypothesis: Try to answer your question. Give reasons for your reason.

Research: Research thoroughly from many sources. Connect the research to your question.

Conclusions: Use your research to answer your original question. Explain how you know if your hypothesis was right or wrong.

Visual Quality of Display: Make your project fun to look at with pictures and colors. Use large, clear lettering. Check grammar and spelling.

Sources: Carefully record where you found your information so others could find those sources, too.