

Science Fair Rubric: Grades K-6

Science Practices	0 Incomplete or Missing	1	2	3	4
Asking Questions & Defining Problems		Ask a simple question or define a simple problem statement based on observations of natural phenomena.	Ask a simple question or define a simple problem statement of natural phenomena that can be answered by an investigation.	Ask a scientific (testable) question or define a problem statement of natural phenomena that can be investigated.	Ask a scientific (testable) question or define a problem statement of natural phenomena about what would happen if a variable is changed.
Developing & Using Models *Models can be diagrams, drawings, physical replicas, dioramas, storyboards, or conceptual understandings of scientific concepts.		Use a model to represent amounts, relative scales (bigger, smaller), or relationships in the natural world.	Use a model to represent patterns in the natural world. Compare models to identify common features and differences.	Use a model as an analogy, example, or abstract representation to describe a scientific principle.	Use models to describe and/or predict phenomena. Use a model to test cause and effect relationships or interactions concerning the functioning of a natural system.
Planning and Carrying out Investigations			List materials used and the steps of the investigation (procedure).		List materials used and the steps of the investigation (procedure), including independent and dependent variables, controlled variables, and the number of trials.
			Make a prediction (hypothesis) based on prior experiences.		Make a prediction (hypothesis) about what would happen if a variable changes.
Analyzing and Interpreting Data & Using Mathematics and Computational Thinking		Record information (observations, thoughts, and ideas). Use pictures, numbers, drawings, and/or writings of observations.	Use quantitative observations to describe patterns and/or relationships in the natural world in order to answer scientific questions and solve problems.	Represent data in tables and/or various graphical displays (bar graphs, pictographs and/or pie charts) to reveal patterns that indicate relationships.	Analyze and interpret data to reveal patterns and make sense of phenomena, using logical reasoning, mathematics, and/or computation.
Constructing		Explain the findings	Use observations to	Construct a	Use evidence (e.g.,

Explanations and Designing Solutions & Engaging in Argument from Evidence		of the investigation in a conclusion.	construct a conclusion that uses evidence to support a claim.	conclusion (explanation) of observed relationships between variables. Analyze why some evidence is relevant to a scientific question and some is not.	measurements, observations, patterns) to construct and support a conclusion (explanation). Identify the evidence that supports particular points in an explanation.
Obtaining, Evaluating, and Communicating (Background) Information		Communicate background information in written form.	Communicate background information using models, drawings, writing, or numbers that provide details about known scientific ideas.	Communicate background scientific and/or technical information in written formats, including tables, diagrams, and charts.	Combine background information obtained from multiple texts with corresponding tables, diagrams, and/or charts to support or explain scientific ideas.

SCORE for Demonstration of Practices _____

Overall Presentation	0	1	2
Organization			Presentations are organized in a logical manner, include title(s), use accurate spelling and grammar, and are neat and legible
Bibliography/ Works Cited		Books, magazines, people, etc. that are consulted during the project are referenced.	Books, magazines, people, etc. that are consulted during the project are referenced using the proper format.
Record Keeping		A log or journal is used to record the investigative process.	A log or journal contains raw data and observations collected during the investigation.
Originality of Thought			Question/problem and investigation are original and grade-level appropriate

SCORE for Overall Presentation _____

TOTAL SCORE _____