

# 5th Grade Science Fair Competition Information



All fifth-graders are invited to enter their project into the Science Fair Competition. The fifth-grade competition is modeled after regional science fairs and will be judged with the rubric below. Entry in the competition is voluntary. If you are entering your project in the competition, please indicate your interest on the Entry form and to your teacher. All competition entries should follow the **scientific method**. Individual entries only. Group projects may be entered in the General Science Fair.

## Scientific Method

1. Make an observation **around you, do some research**
2. Ask a **testable** question
3. Make a hypothesis (an educated guess)
4. (Explore) **Plan** methods of testing **from your research**
5. Perform experimentation (**1 variable with several trials**)
6. Examine the results
7. (Reach a) **Discuss** the conclusion

### JUDGES' RUBRIC Fort Washington Elementary School Science Fair

Criteria	4	3	2	1
<b>Originality of Question</b>	Ask a testable question and do original research for ideas to test.	Ask a testable question and have unique perspective on a traditional project.	Embellish an existing idea.	No originality.
<b>Hypothesis</b>	Thoroughly develop prediction "IF... this is done THEN... this will result." ("I think... because....")	Sufficiently developed good guess/prediction but no IF ..then ...statement.	Partially developed prediction of the results of the experiment.	Major flaws. No prediction of results of the experiment.
<b>Procedures/ Organization</b>	Easy to follow numbered steps of experiment and the Scientific Method. Design your procedure to test only 1 variable. List materials. Language is clear and correct.	Easy to follow steps of experiment and the Scientific Method. List materials. Some language errors.	Somewhat difficult to follow steps because of lapses of the sequence (of the Scientific Method). Some materials listed.	Difficult to follow; no sequence of steps. No list of materials.
<b>Investigation Trials</b>	Experiment was performed 3 or more (than 2) times and/or sample size was exceptional.	Experiment was performed 2 times and/or sample size was adequate.	Experiment was performed 1 time and/or sample size was minimal.	Experiment was performed incompletely.
<b>(Analysis) Results</b> <b>Data Tables= Observations and Measurements</b>	Data is clearly presented in logs, charts and/or graphs. Directly relates to hypothesis/ question.	Data is reasonably presented and shows good relationship to hypothesis/question.	Data is minimally presented and shows some relationship to hypothesis/question.	Data is not presented and no relationship to hypothesis/question is evident.
<b>(Evaluation/ Conclusion/ Discussion</b>	A logical conclusion has been drawn from the data collected. States possible errors. Answers the hypothesis/question. Raises a (new hypothesis/) new ideas for future experiments. Has real world application.	A logical conclusion has been drawn from the data collected. Missing 1-2 discussion points.	A fairly reasonable conclusion has been drawn from the data collected. Several discussion points missing.	The conclusion drawn does not to relate to the data collected. Lacks any discussion.
<b>Presentation</b> <i>Overall Impression</i>				

\*Scientific Method: question, hypothesis, investigation/testing, results, and conclusion.