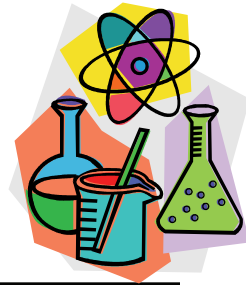




Student Information

UNMC/AHEC Regional Science Meets



It is easy to do a science project....this is all it takes.

1. Select a Topic

Select a topic you are interested in and make sure it is not too easy or too complicated. Your teacher can help you determine the type of project to fit your topic.

2. Research your Topic

Learn as much as you can about your topic. Look for information from several different sources (e.g. books, internet, interviews). Keep a bibliography citing all sources of information.

3. Design your Plan

Determine the type of project you will conduct for your science research. Create a timeline for conducting your research making sure to identify important dates.



Need ideas for science projects????

Go to: <http://www.sciencebuddies.org>

Due dates are dependent on which Science Meet you attend.
Check with your teacher for deadlines and remember to plan ahead!

Winners of regional meets go to UNMC for the state science meet. The statewide meet is a fun and exciting experience, where you will do a variety of hands-on science and health activities. You'll have many opportunities to meet other students your age from across Nebraska.

Special thanks to Northern Nebraska AHEC for developing this handout for student use.

4. Conduct your Science Research

Keep detailed notes on everything you do and on observations that you make. Stick to your timetable as closely as possible.

5. Examine your Results

Upon completion of your science research, examine and organize your findings. Explain and share your findings (e.g. data tables, graphs, pictures, diagrams, etc.)

6. Draw Conclusions

Summarize your learning by doing the following: State the purpose of the project; identify major findings including what you learned, whether you accept or reject your hypothesis, and the answer to your question; and make recommendations for future research.



Where to start...what to do!

Determine your project.

Projects must be done individually and reflect your own thoughts, experiences, ideas, and knowledge. This is YOUR project.

When finished remember you will need to talk to the judges.

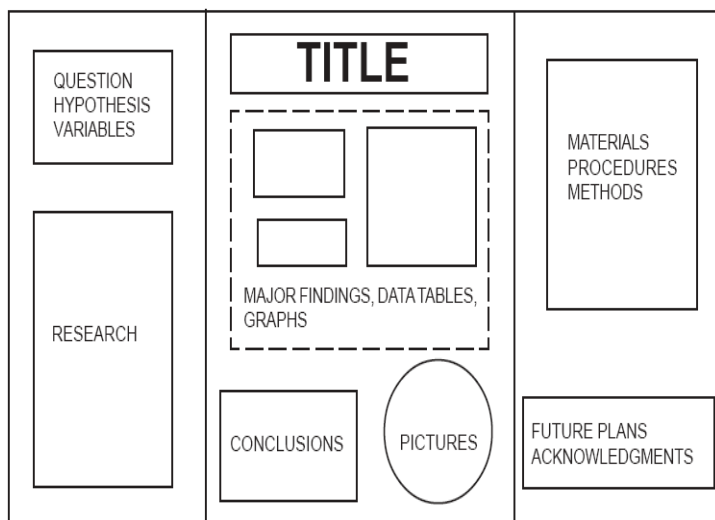
Prepare speaking notes for talking to judges. Judges will spend 3-5 minutes talking with you about your project. DO NOT prepare a written speech. Have fun and talk with the judges, they are just as nervous as you!!

Required Written Materials

- **Abstract:** An abstract is a summary of your science research project. It should be 250 words or less and single-spaced. The abstract is part of your science meet application.
- **Project Logbook:** Your logbook should contain accurate and detailed notes about your project. Entries should be made on a regular basis and can include design plans, data collection, notes, observations, journaling, drawings, questions, ideas, thoughts, etc. Composition books are great for use as logbooks.



- **Project Paper:** Your project paper should include the following:
 - Title Page:** Center the project title and put your name, school, and date of the meet at the bottom of the page.
 - Introduction:** One or two paragraphs explaining why you chose to do your science research project and what you hope to learn. Include your question, hypothesis and variable.
 - The Plan:** Describe in detail the methodology used to collect your data, gather your information, or make your observations. Include enough information so that others can repeat your project. You might want to include detailed photographs or drawings.
 - Discussion:** Thoroughly discuss exactly what you did in your project. Explain the results of your experiment and/or what you have learned. Include tables and/or graphs of your summarized experimental data.
 - Conclusion:** Summarize your project. State the purpose of the project; identify major findings, including what you learned, whether you accept or reject your hypothesis, the answer to your question; and make recommendations for future research.
 - Acknowledgments:** Give thanks to everyone who helped make your science research project a success. (Mom, Dad and your teacher are very appropriate!)
 - Bibliography:** List any documentation that is not your own (i.e., books, journals, web sites, interviews, videotapes)



Display Board

Your project's display board should attract and inform and make the most use of space with clear and concise information. Your display board is a powerful way to share what you have learned with others.

**If you have questions about specific items and what can be displayed, ask your teacher.*

Display boards 36-48 inches high are best. (The maximum height allowed is 72 inches (183 cm) high, 48 inches (122 cm) wide or side to side, 30 inches (76 cm) deep or front to back)

