

Northern Illinois Regional Science Fair 2012

Guide Form for Projects

Use the listings in the appropriate column to help you format your journal. K – 3rd grade, and 4th graders that decide not to do a journal, should use these listings to format a page(s) to help keep track of what they are doing. This will ensure that all areas are covered.

NOTE: If there are terms that a layperson may not know or understand (in any project area), please have a vocabulary page in your journal and report (**both are required for 5th grade and up, optional for 4th grade**). In the journal, dedicate some pages in the front for vocabulary. As research is done, begin filling in these pages with new or unfamiliar words. In the report, please place the vocabulary list at the beginning of the discussion section.

(See the Rules document for the report outline.)

Scientific Experiment

Problem – Must be clearly stated.

Hypothesis – Must be clearly stated.

Procedure - Main section. Detail the steps taken. Steps must be easily understood and followed.

Materials - List in the order of use.

Data - What kind of data was collected? Write all observations in the journal. Organize and make material concise for the report.

Graphics - Which of the following can be used to show the data?

charts graphs

photos drawings

Conclusion - What was learned from this experiment? Write all thoughts in the journal. In the report, come to one clearly stated conclusion with the reasoning of how it was reached.

Scientific Demo or Model

Topic – Must be clearly stated.

Drawing - Make a drawing or diagram of what will be demonstrated or of the model that is to be made. Include this in the journal and report.

Procedure - List the steps taken in the demonstration or the procedures followed to make the model.

Materials - List in the order of use.

Graphics - Drawings or photos that show the progress of the demonstration or the building of the model.

Conclusion - What was learned from this project? Why is this important? Write all thoughts in the journal. In the report, come to one clearly stated conclusion with the reasoning of how it was reached.

Scientific Collection

Area of Science – Must be clearly stated.

Items in Collection - Must have an adequate number. For example, 3 butterflies are not considered a collection.

How were the pieces of the collection obtained? Remember, most collections should be found and not bought. Think about how much more is learned when items are collected from their natural habitat. When items are bought, their natural habitat will need to be researched. Write all of this information in the journal and organize it in the report.

Where items are from? – Specify.

How are items classified? - Use scientific classification that is grade appropriate.