

SCIENCE FAIR EVALUATION CRITERIA

- 1 Statements to be addressed under **Creative Ability/Originality**
 - there was a question asked
 - it was an original question and the answer was not known
 - the approach to answering the question was creative
 - the creativity of the study was within the creative ability of the student
 - the student used the scientific method in experimentation rather than only descriptions and observations

- 2 Statements to be addressed under **Scientific Thought**
 - the scope of the study was within the student's ability
 - the study was well thought out and the student showed initiative in thought and design
 - the goals and objectives of the study were well defined
 - the scientific literature was examined
 - a logical hypothesis was developed for this study
 - the data collected relate to the hypothesis

- 3 Statements to be addressed under **Thoroughness**
 - the student collected all data available
 - the student identified all the controls
 - the sample sizes and population sources were carefully chosen
 - the variable of each experiment was clearly defined
 - replications and duplications were used
 - the student anticipated the problems encountered
 - the student related the work to that reported in the literature
 - the data were collected in quantitative units
 - several experiments were done, not just one
 - the study was completed or brought to a logical stopping place
 - the data were thoroughly analyzed

- 4 Statements to be addressed under **Skill**
 - the experimental protocols were handled with skill
 - the experiments were designed with care and anticipation
 - the data measurements were done precisely
 - the study was skillfully designed and was not too complicated
 - technical problems were overcome and not merely avoided
 - a detailed notebook and log were kept
 - this study was the student's alone and excessive help was not utilized

5 Statements to be addressed under **Clarity**

- the student is able to explain what was done
- the student clearly understands the research
- the student understands the meaning of the results obtained
- the student understands where this research can ;lead in the future
- the student understands how this study can be improved
- it is clear to the student whether the data support or fail to support the hypothesis
- is the display well organized so that the component parts of the presentation are logical? Is it neat and uncluttered or are there items that are not part of the science or relevant to the study performed?
- does the display stand alone? Can you understand the study without the student present?
- does the display communicate science or just an exercise in artistry?

6 Statements to be addressed under **Teamwork (Only for Team Projects)**

- the tasks and contributions of each team member are clearly outlined
- each team member was fully involved with the project
- each team member was familiar with all aspects of the project
- the final work reflects the coordinated efforts of all team members