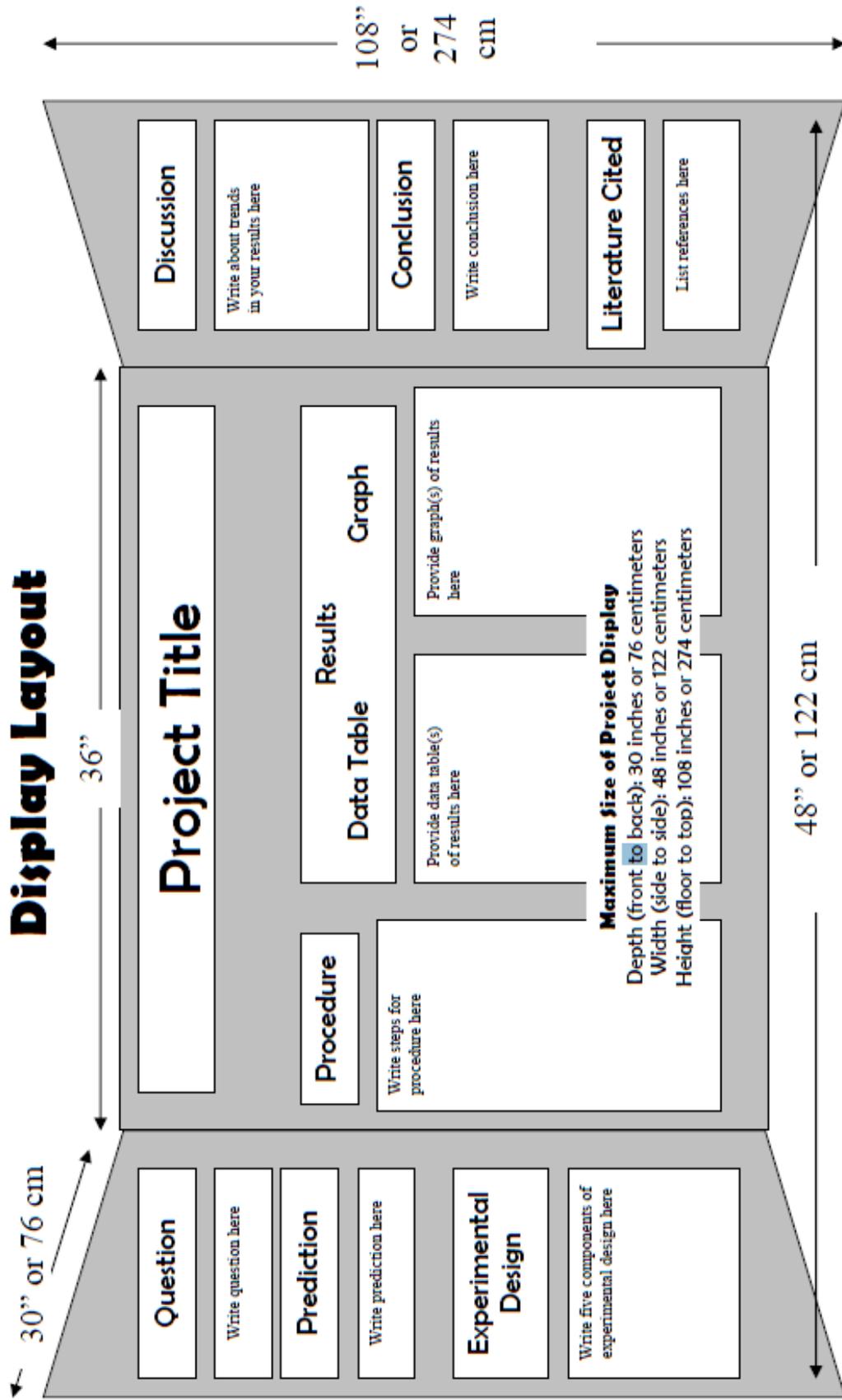


Possible Science Fair Topics

This list is meant to spur ideas. Use this list to develop a question of your own that is testable. More original ideas usually perform better at Science Fair and often get better grades.

1. How does temperature affect the height a tennis ball bounces?
2. How does changing rooms affect bacteria growth?
3. How does moisture affect mold growth?
4. How does brand of paper towels affect absorbance?
5. How does detergent affect stain removal?
6. How does fabric type affect stain resistance?
7. How does the amount of salt/water/plant food/light affect the growth of _____ plants?
8. How does temperature affect the freezing time of ice cubes?
9. How does popcorn brand affect the number of kernels left unpopped?
10. How does brand of garbage bag affect bag strength?
11. How does brand of mouthwash affect bacterial growth?
12. How does listening to different music types affect heart rate?
13. How does time of day/temperature affect flexibility?
14. How does vinegar affect the Ph of water?
15. How does incline affect erosion rate?
16. How does food type affect electric current production?
17. How does temperature affect the volume of a balloon?
18. How does meditation affect heart rate?
19. How does fabric color affect its heat absorption?
20. How does brand of battery affect battery life per dollar?
21. How does fertilizer type/brand affect the growth of _____ plants?
22. How does the amount of time spent TV watching affect grades?
23. How does brand of water/cola/lemon-lime affect most popular taste?

24. How does the amount of salt in water affect buoyancy?
25. How does exercise affect heart rate (one shot, over time, different exercise time)?
26. How does gender/age/grade level affect the number of text messages sent per day?
27. How metal type affect heat conduction?
28. How does age/gender affect ability to differentiate the sound of coins (or some other items)?
29. How does paper airplane design affect flying distance?
30. How does height/leg length affect average stride length?
31. How does a person's height to weight ratio affect heart rate when exercising?
32. How does the type of shoe affect amount of bacterial growth?
33. How does brand of toothpaste affect whitening ability?



Parent Helping Dos

1. Encourage your child.
2. Help find resources.
3. Ask your child questions that will challenge them.
4. Set aside time just for science fair work at home.
5. Help your child select their partner.
6. Read procedures and be sure your child addresses, basic organization, safety, cleanup, measurement and materials use.
7. Use the checklist.
8. Help your child select a manageable topic (Consider money that will need to be spent, time and access to resources.
9. Become familiar with the requirements on their display board and make sure they include all parts on theirs.
10. Learn the basic scientific method so you can ask questions to help your child apply it to their project.
11. Have your child use appropriate sentence stems (attached).
12. Use the organizers in this packet to have them do the work themselves.
13. Ask them questions to have them recognize variables they need to eliminate.
14. Ask teachers for a timetable of when each part is due and post it in a clear place (refrigerator).

Parent Help Don'ts

1. Do the work for them.
2. Have someone other than your child (or partner) do the work.
3. Give them answers, when a question or trial and error can give them their own answer.
4. Let them select a project that you or someone who can help knows nothing about.
5. Select the topic for them.

Name _____

Experimental Design: Choosing Variables

For my experiment,

We will change	We will measure
We will not change (controls variables)	We will not measure (controls variable)

District Science Fair

Score Sheet

Judge's Name: _____

Student(s) Name(s): _____ Grade: _____

School: _____ Teacher: _____

Title of Project: _____

Score (circle one):

Scientific Investigation				
Title	0	1	2	3
Question	0	1	2	3
Prediction	0	1	2	3
Experimental Design	0	1	2	3
Procedure	0	1	2	3
Results	0	1	2	3
Discussion	0	1	2	3
Conclusion	0	1	2	3
Creativity	0	1	2	3
Display	0	1	2	3
Oral Presentation	0	1	2	3
Total Score (out of 33 points) _____				

Sample Data Chart

Effect of Light on the Growth of Bean Plants

IV = Amount of Light DV = Height of plants (cm) Measurement interval = 1 day

IV \ Time	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8	Day 9
Dark									
Full Shade									
Mixed Light									
Full Sun									

IV \ Time	Day 10	Day 11	Day 12	Day 13	Day 14	Day 15	Day 16	Day 17	Day 18
Dark									
Full Shade									
Mixed Light									
Full Sun									

Draw your Data Chart in the space below or on another sheet of paper. Use additional paper if necessary for multiple charts.

Sample Graph

“The Affect of Light on the Growth of Bean Plants”

