

## SCIENCE FAIR PROJECT UPDATE MARCH 4 2019

### YOU SHOULD BE ACTIVELY WORKING ON:

#### DOING THE EXPERIMENT

Keep track of all Data and Observations that you collect. Decide as you collect data if your experiment needs to be tweaked or altered in any way to collect meaningful data that will lead to a valuable conclusion.

If you are performing a multi-day experiment, you should have multiple sets of observations.

The data you collect will depend on your specific experiment, but your observations can/should include as many of the following as possible:

- Illustrations / photographs / diagrams
- A narrative/description of what's happening
- Measurements (ex. time, quantity, changes)
- Samples of your results

Organize this data in a meaningful way. You will be displaying it for others to see.

#### Background research / What's happening?

Continue to summarize some research using books and the Internet. Use this research to give general background information that will help your audience to understand the topic you are exploring.

Later, once you have some results, you will use your research to explain WHY you obtained the results that you did. In this phase:

- paraphrase while taking notes (this helps to prevent plagiarism)
- keep a list of books & websites you've looked at and make a bibliography.

### The FINAL PROJECT STAGES that we will work on:

#### Putting It Together: ROUGH DRAFTS

When we return to school on APRIL 1 2019, we will start to assemble a *rough draft* for your project. We will work together during class time to put the information together into full sentences, and paragraph form. You will write your information the way you would on your good-copy. The final version will be displayed on a poster board, so please pay attention to the section organizers outlined on the next page.

If you don't have any experimental information (data and observations) and Background Research compiled, then you will not be able to maximize the use of the class time provided. It is important that students bring all experimental information that they have so far, to class, so that the teacher can help you start organizing it all.

The teacher will review your rough drafts and give you suggestions that should help to boost the quality of your project. It is a good idea to pay attention to the suggestions the teacher gives you on your rough draft!

Ask for clarification if you need it.

Rough draft **Due on Wednesday April 17 / Thursday April 18**

#### PART 1:

- ✓ **Purpose** "To find out..." (include your question here)
- ✓ **Prediction** (Hypothesis) "Before I started, I thought that .... would happen. This is why..."
- ✓ **Materials & Procedure**  
Make a list of the Materials you are using / have used  
Write the PROCEDURE in Past Tense, Passive Voice  
*Eg. Instead of:* 1) Pour 15 ml of vinegar onto a plant and then record your observations  
**You should write:** 1) Poured 15 ml of vinegar onto a plant and recorded observations
- ✓ **Data & observations** of your experiment  
(you may not have all of your data and observations yet, but you should have enough to start organizing this section of your project)
- ✓ **Layout:** Show a design for the layout of your results on a project display board.

#### PART 2:

- ✓ **Background** Explain the topic so others will understand your experiment.  
This is the re-working and editing (completion of ) your research.  
This part is meant to be read before your procedure, to explain what the experiment will be about.
- ✓ **Results & Discussion.**  
- Display your results in a clear and thorough way.  
-What did you learn from your experiment? How can you explain these findings?
- ✓ **Conclusion**  
-Re-state your question, and the answer you found.  
This is a brief summary of your project's purpose & results.
- ✓ **Bibliography** (on the back)

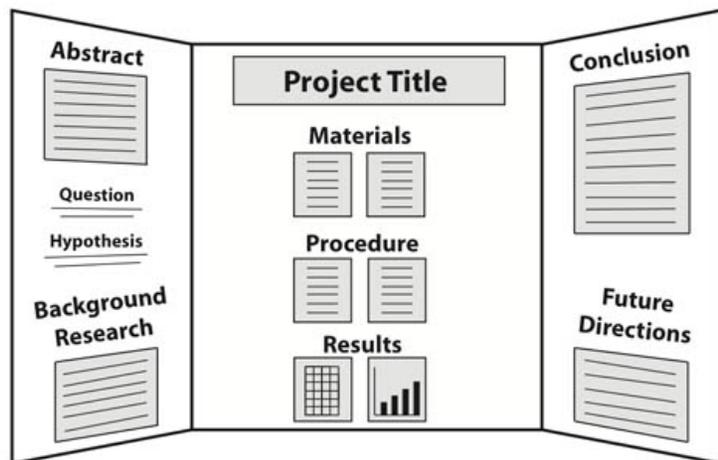
You will hand in the above sections, as a ROUGH COPY; showing the TEXT that you intend to include on the GOOD COPY on your display board.

If there is missing content (Data, Observations, Discussion, Conclusion), write a sentence explaining what you will be including here.

You will receive it back with feedback on it, as to how to edit it, improve it, and add it to over the next month.

You will receive guidance during class time, in early April, on assembling your ROUGH COPY and getting it ready to hand in.

YOUR FINAL PRODUCT (aka “deliverable”) will look like somewhat like this:



We will talk about your layout on your DISPLAY BOARDS in early April during class.

***Where you can get DISPLAY BOARDS FROM:***

The Handsworth Science Dept has a limited number of these boards available for purchase.

Some of you have boards like this from previous projects that we encourage you to cover with paper / paint and re-use to prevent unnecessary waste of re-usable materials).

THE FINAL PROJECT IS DUE ON **WEDNESDAY MAY 15 THROUGH FRIDAY MAY 17**  
(varies for different teachers and different blocks).

THE FINAL PRESENTATION TO STAFF, STUDENTS AND PARENTS IS  
**WEDNESDAY MAY 22**  
(DURING THE SCHOOL DAY AND IN THE EVENING)