

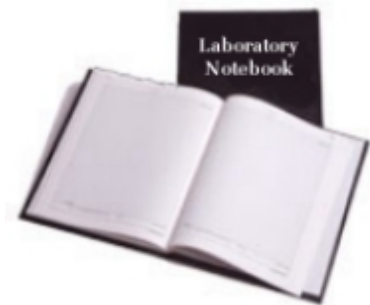
# 8 WEEK SCIENCE FAIR PLAN

by Marlene Kroeker

Yes, you can survive the science fair! I developed the following 8-week plan and used it with grades 5, 6 and 7. Breaking down the science projects into weekly blocks helps students stay focused and organized. I integrate the science fair projects with Language Arts for research and report writing.

## WEEK 1

- science fair discussion with the class
- letter home to parents
- present project ideas and examples
- review scientific terms
- start the logbook
  - working copy of experiment
  - daily notes of what you have done with your experiment
- students decide if they want to work alone or with a partner
- students develop the question for their projects



## WEEK 2

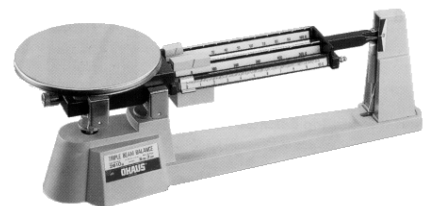
- research for the project begins
  - a necessary step in order to develop the hypothesis
- bibliography
- logbook

## WEEK 3

- hypothesis
- organize the method
- organize the material
- identify the independent variable and the controlled variables
- logbook

## WEEK 4

- experiment is conducted and repeated
- observations are recorded
- analyze results
  - graphs
  - tables
- logbook



## WEEK 5

- conclusion
- applications
  - could require more research
- acknowledgements
- good copy of bibliography

- log book
- project checklist

### WEEK 6

- complete written report
  - title page
  - problem
  - hypothesis
  - material
  - method
  - observations
  - conclusion
  - applications
  - acknowledgements and bibliography
- begin designing and creating backboards
- logbook

Left Panel	Center Panel	Right Panel
Purpose Problem Procedure	Title Illustrations/Photos Graphs/Charts	Results Conclusion

### WEEK 7

- complete backboards
- logbook

### WEEK 8

- review judging criteria with students
- practice presentations
  - anticipate questions that the judges might ask
- logbook

### PRESENTING YOUR PROJECT

1. Offer your chairs to the judges. Whether the judges use your chairs or not you need to stand during your presentation.
2. The presentation is like an interview. Make eye contact, speak clearly and in complete sentences, don't use slang, speak politely and do not chew gum.
3. Explain your project following the scientific method from problem to applications. Remember that the judges did not complete your experiment so you need to explain the project in detail.
4. Clearly explain the variable that you tested (independent variable) and the controlled variables.
5. Do the demonstration if you have one prepared.
6. Ask the judges if they have any questions.
7. Thank the judges. Remember that they are guests at our school.