

## **What Do I Need To Do For The Science Fair?**



**7<sup>th</sup> Grade Life Science**

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\* Please note that this entire packet is written in the same font size and spacing of your research paper requirements. Therefore your final research paper should look something very similar to this packet in size and number of pages.

Life Science

## **Format for the Science Fair**

### **Research Paper**

This is a report in which you summarize everything you have read about the topic for your science project. Choose any topic that involves **Life Science**. You will have to type this paper and make sure that you save it in a hard drive because we will be refining it several times before the actual due date. The size of the font should be no larger than **12**. The entire research paper should contain at least **7 pages** when you include the title page, table of contents, abstract, body of the paper (2-4 pages), picture page and bibliography. Do not put pages in plastic sheets. Present the report in a folder with your **full name and science period number** neatly typed.

The following are the required sections of your research paper in the given order.

1. **Title Page:** Put the title of your report in the center of the page, several inches (4-6) from the top of the page. Include relevant pictures to interest the reader. Type your full name, date, school, teacher and period in the lower right-hand corner of this page.
2. **Table of contents:** Write “Table of Contents” in the center at the top of this page. Below list reading materials that appear on each page. This Table is the last part to be completed. Eventually, you will organize each page of the report and put the page number to the far right of the Table.
3. **Abstract:** This is a shortened version of the main ideas of your research paper. See page 5 for detailed instructions.
4. **Body of the Paper:** Ideally the body of your report should be a minimum of 2 pages double-spaced type. In this section of the report, you should:
  - a) Describe some important past research conducted by other people;

- b) State general information you gathered from periodicals, i.e. magazines, newspapers, interviews, information from the Internet or any other appropriate source;
- c) Any other interesting updated information. All information should be in your own words. Copies of information or print outs are not acceptable.

5. **Picture:** Include an illustration, diagram, or science drawing with labels and descriptive captions.
6. **Bibliography:** This is a list of books, articles, pamphlets, internet, interviews and any other resources that you used for your research paper. You will need to have at least 5 resources listed in your bibliography. The bibliographical entry should include the following: **Author's Last Name, First Name, Name of Book (underlined), Publishing Company, copyright date, pages used.**

Below is an example of how to list your sources:

**Example One, Book:**

Williams, Jack, Modern Science, McGraw-Hill Publishing, Copyright date 1993,  
Pages 23, 30 & 33.

**Example Two, Website:**

<http://www.science.com>, American Association for the Advancement of Science, with assistance of Stanford University's HighWire Press, Copyright © 2004 by the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

\* **Check out this website:** <http://www.liu.edu/cwis/cwp/library/workshop/citmla.htm>

## Writing an Abstract

*What is an abstract?*

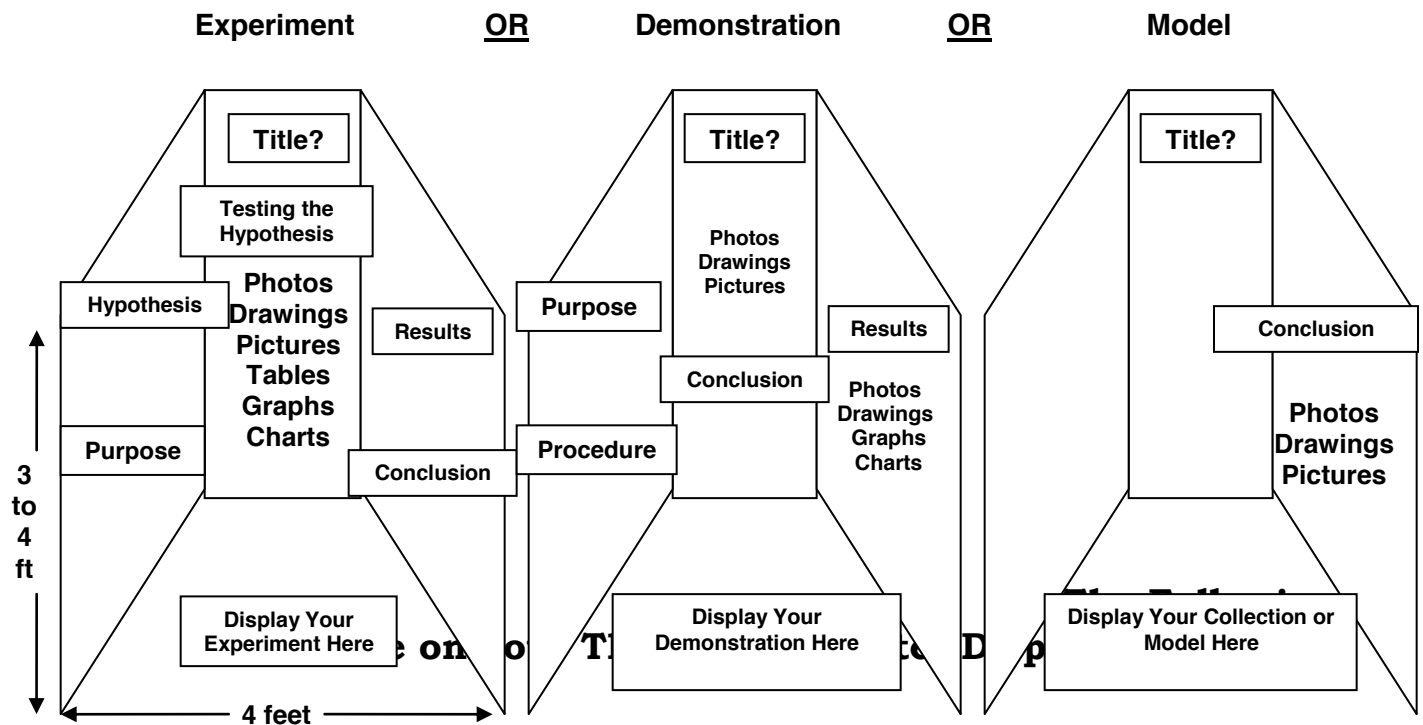
A shortened version of the main ideas of your research paper.

Write a one-page **Abstract** after you have completed your research paper, since it should highlight the main ideas. It should be easy to read, saving time from reading the entire research paper, and is used by the judges to check your research and reasoning. It must provide the necessary information to understanding what the research paper and project is about. Follow these instructions when writing an abstract:

1. **Who are you?** In the first paragraph of your abstract please include information about yourself.
  - Your name
  - Address (Optional)
  - School you attend
  - Grade in School
  - Age
  - Category or your project such as: Life Science or Biology.
2. **Purpose and Type of Project:** State the purpose of the report and write the summary of your research in three to four paragraphs. Include the summary of your results and conclusion. Be sure to define any vocabulary that is important to the understanding of your research. Start your purpose with the word “To”. Describe what type of project you have selected, such as:
  - Experiment
  - Demonstration
  - Collection
  - Model.
3. **Acknowledgements:** Acknowledge any person(s) or organization(s) that helped in the research of this paper and project. This should include facilities such as a laboratory workshop, office, garage, nursery, computer, or other facilities, given you suggestions, proofread your paper, etc.

## Three-Panel Poster Display

Use your creative skills to design a poster that will catch the eyes of the judges and the observers. Remember, only those who choose to do an **Experiment** and do it exceptionally well will be able to participate in the Science Fair. Please read the next page to clearly understand the difference between an Experiment, Demonstration, Collection and a Model. Construct a three-panel poster that stands alone, displaying the most important components of your project. Use stencils, stick-on letters or computer printed letters that are 2 – 3 inches in height to display your Science Fair Project Title (Question Form).



1. The Title in the form of a Question
2. Hypothesis, "If... Then..."
3. Testing of your Hypothesis with Tables, Graphs or Charts
4. Analysis of your Results
5. Conclusion

6. Color and Contrast to capture the attention of the judges
7. Labeled free-hand drawings or pictures
8. Photographs of the different stages of your project
9. Creativity!

### A Complete Science Project should include

### One of the Following Columns.

<b><u>Experiment</u> Highly Recommended</b>	<b><u>Demonstration</u> Model with moveable parts</b>	<b><u>Collection</u> Of Life-Science material</b>	<b><u>Model</u> Without moveable Parts</b>
<b>I. Signed Agreement</b>	<b>I. Signed Agreement</b>	<b>I. Signed Agreement</b>	<b>I. Signed Agreement</b>
<b>II. Research Paper</b> 1. Title 2. Table of Contents 3. Abstract 4. Body 2-4 pg Paper 5. Picture Page 6. Bibliography	<b>II. Research Paper</b> 1. Title 2. Table of Contents 3. Abstract 4. Body 2-4 pg Paper 5. Picture Page 6. Bibliography	<b>II. Research Paper</b> 1. Title 2. Table of Contents 3. Abstract 4. Body 2-4 pg Paper 5. Picture Page 6. Bibliography	<b>II. Research Paper</b> 1. Title 2. Table of Contents 3. Abstract 4. Body 2-4 pg Paper 5. Picture Page 6. Bibliography
<b>III. Three-Panel Board</b>	<b>III. Three-Panel Board</b>	<b>III. Three-Panel Board</b>	<b>III. Three-Panel Board</b>
<b>IV. Experimented material. Display it in front of your board.</b>	<b>IV. Demonstration is a model with moveable parts. Demonstrate it.</b>	<b>IV. Display the collection of your Life-Science Material</b>	<b>IV. Present your Life-Science Model in front of the display board.</b>
<b>V. Oral Presentation – If you have a partner, make sure both of you participate equally.</b>	<b>V. Oral Presentation – If you have a partner, make sure both of you participate equally.</b>	<b>V. Oral Presentation – If you have a partner, make sure both of you participate equally.</b>	<b>V. Oral Presentation – If you have a partner, make sure both of you participate equally.</b>

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_

### Science Fair 3 - Panel Display & Oral Presentation Rubric

**Layout:**

- a. Correct Format \_\_\_\_\_ 25 Pts \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Title Stated \_\_\_\_\_ 25 Pts \_\_\_\_\_
- Total: 50 Pts** \_\_\_\_\_

**Color/Contrast:**

- a. Creativity \_\_\_\_\_ 25 Pts \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Eye Appealing \_\_\_\_\_ 25 Pts \_\_\_\_\_
- Total: 50 Pts** \_\_\_\_\_

**Completeness:**

- a. Reported Project Thoroughly \_\_\_\_\_ 50 Pts \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Info Clear and Concise \_\_\_\_\_ 25 Pts \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Neatness/Spelling \_\_\_\_\_ 25 Pts \_\_\_\_\_
- Total: 100 Pts** \_\_\_\_\_

**Oral Presentation:**

- a. Reported Project thoroughly and answered all the Questions \_\_ 75 Pts \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Voice, Poise and Confidence during Presentation \_\_\_\_\_ 25 Pts \_\_\_\_\_
- Total: 100 Pts** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total:** **50 + 50 + 100 + 100 = 300 Pts** \_\_\_\_\_

**Comments:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



## Important Due Dates for the Science Project

**(Put this up on your refrigerator)**

Tuesday, September 4 <sup>th</sup> , 2012	<b>Project topic <u>and</u> Parent and Student Agreement</b>
Monday, September 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2012	<b>Bring at least three research material that are not exclusively internet.</b> (i.e. Book, Internet print-out, Magazine)
Tuesday, October 9 <sup>th</sup> , 2012	<b>Research Notes</b> - Handwritten or typed notes taken while researching
Monday, November 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2012	<b><u>Typed</u> Rough draft</b> of Research Paper. Include all components of the final paper. Total of 5 - 7 pages.
Monday, December 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2012	<b><u>Typed</u> Final draft</b> of Research Paper.
Monday January 14, 2013	<b>Three Panel Display</b>
Week of January 14, 2013	<b>Oral Presentations</b>
February 4 <sup>th</sup> - 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2013	<b>School Wide Science Fair</b> Judged by Scientists. (Top 4 projects will be selected from each grade level for the District Fair)
February 27, 2013	LA County Fair Registration Deadline  *winners –start the online registration at least a week early!)
(Tentative - <b>March 8-9, 2013</b> )	<b>District Wide Science Fair</b> Judged by JPL Scientists
March 21-23, 2013	<b>LA County Science Fair</b> <i>Pasadena Convention Center</i> <a href="http://www.lascifair.org">http://www.lascifair.org</a>
<b>Sierra Madre Science &amp; Engineering Fair Projects will be on Display during Open House</b>	

For your reference please fill out the following and keep it with you. Project Title in the form of a Question \_\_\_\_\_ ?

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## **Grade 7 - Parent and Student Agreement**

The information/content and research completeness of your research paper will be graded by your Science teacher. If you choose to work with a partner, both are required to participate equally. Each member of the team should write their own separate research paper in the topic that they have researched independently.

On **Tuesday, September 4th, 2012** this signed agreement (**page 10 bottom portion only**) should be returned with your project written below. Your partner's name, if you choose to have one, should also be clearly written below. You will receive 5 extra credit points for submitting this page on time.

The research paper, the Science Fair 3 - Panel Display board and the Oral presentation will also be graded separately for a class grade. **Only the best Experiments** will be chosen and be allowed to participate in the school wide Science Fair. The Demonstration, Model and Collection projects will only be able to get a class grade and will **NOT** be able to participate in the Science Fair. **Therefore all students are encouraged to do an experiment.**

Parents/Guardians, please allow the student(s) to come up with their own ideas. Please DO NOT do the work for them. Give all the support you can give, but let them do the work. Students who do well during the presentations and final interview are the ones who did the project by themselves and learned a lot through the whole experience. It is very obvious for the interviewer when they don't do the actual work.

**A WORD OF CAUTION -- DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE. A GOOD PROJECT TAKES MONTHS TO COMPLETE. YOU HAVE AMPLE TIME TO COME UP WITH SOMETHING BRILLIANT. ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS PROJECT SHOULD BE ASKED BEFORE THE DUE DATES. PLEASE DO NOT ASK FOR EXTENSIONS AFTER ANY OF THE DUE DATES!**

**MOST IMPORTANTLY, PLEASE UNDERSTAND THAT NOT SUBMITTING ANYTHING FOR THIS PROJECT OR NEGLECTING ALL OTHER WORK AND DOING ONLY THE SCIENCE FAIR PROJECT COULD POSSIBLY RESULT IN FAILING SCIENCE THIS YEAR!**

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I read the entire packet and I understand the importance of this project and meeting the deadlines. The following is the Life Science Topic I have chosen as my Science Fair Project:

Write the Project Title in the form of a Question \_\_\_\_\_?

I wish to work with \_\_\_\_\_ From Science period # \_\_\_\_\_  
(Your project partner's first and last names)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Parent/Guardian's Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Period #

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Student's Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date