

## Science Fair Time Line (updated for GHS Students)

OCT 10th

### **Question, Plan, and Hypothesis:**

What question do you want to answer?

(Must identify why this question needs to be answered.)

How do you plan to answer the question?

Hypothesis shows cause and effect (Multiple hypotheses can be used to answer the question.)

OCT 17th

### **Research Log:**

Must have a bibliography with 6 references and 1 page of research from 5 different references (1 reference is: societyforscience.org)

Research **Plan**/Project Summary: Question being addressed, Hypothesis, Procedures (include safety), Data Analysis, and Bibliography (Students will complete the “Research Plan” of this SSEF document and then add the “Project Summary” upon completion of project.)

*The Research Plan/Project Summary is a succinct detailing of the rationale, research question(s), methodology, and risk assessment of your research project and should be completed before the start of your experimentation. Any changes you make to your study should to be added to the final document.*

(Instructions for Research Plan/Project Summary can be found at:

[www.floridassef.net/](http://www.floridassef.net/)

OCT 24th

### **Procedure and Materials:**

Detailed steps of the procedure are written by the student and can be easily replicated. (Number and list every step necessary to complete your experiment.)

Detailed list of materials and amounts used (Metric)

### **Experimentation:**

OCT 31

**Constants** (The parts of the experiment that stayed the same.

Ex: amount of soil, water, sunlight, seeds etc.)

**Dependent** (Outcome) **Variable** and **Independent** (Test) **Variable** are correctly identified and manipulated

**Control Group** (The group that was not manipulated.)

**Safety Procedures** (These are written procedures to ensure that this experiment was conducted in a safe manner. ex: gloves, goggles, parental supervision)

**NOV 7TH**

**Science Journal:**

This is a hand written journal that you keep detailed notes in.  
(Ex: dates, materials, procedures, measurements, observations, data, conclusions etc.)

**NOV 14th**

**Data and Results:**

Data tables and graphs are in Metric and relate to hypothesis  
(Minimum of 5 Trials)  
Explain your data and justify your results

**NOV 21th**

**Conclusion:**

- Analyze your data and use it to draw conclusions
- Defend why your results supported or failed to support your hypothesis
- Relate your project to the real world
- Did you have any problems with experimentation? Sources of error

**DEC 5**

**Abstract & Complete Summary portion of Research Plan:**

This is a summary (250 words or less) of your project and must include:

Purpose  
Procedures  
Data (no graphs)  
Conclusion

(Abstract must be on the ISEF form and located on the lower left hand corner of the board. It can be typed on line at the ISEF site.

[www.floridassef.net/](http://www.floridassef.net/)

Research Plan Summary (Add to your Research Plan)

**DEC 10th**

**Completed Board, Research Log, and Science Journal are due:**

**Board** must display at least these key components:

(Question, Plan, Hypothesis, Experimentation, Procedures, Data, Results, Conclusion, Abstract)

It must be neat, organized, spelled correctly, and grammatically correct.

**Research Log**

**Science Journal**

\*All forms and rules can be accessed at:

<http://www.floridassef.net/>