


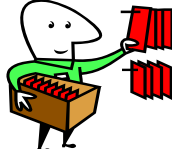



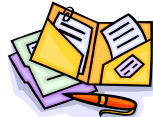





RESEARCH PROJECT TOOLS



	<h2>EXPLORE</h2> <p>Target Date: _____</p>	<p>Explore a variety of resources for meaningful project ideas: research books, periodicals, Internet, community concerns, local environmental issues, look in your backyard, and garage. Explore your personal interests. <i>The more interested you are in your subject, the more meaningful the subject matter, the more likely you are to succeed.</i></p>
<h2>Individual or Team Project?</h2> <p>Target Date: _____</p>		<p>You may choose to work as an individual or member of a team of 2 or 3 students. Note that judges have a much higher level of expectation for team projects. Get your parents' and advisor's permission before choosing a team project.</p>
	<h2>START</h2> <p>Target Date: _____</p>	<p>Read, research, and search for ideas. Outline the PROJECT PLAN. Write an INTRODUCTION: Write a statement of purpose. Write and investigative question. Write a hypothesis that provides a basis for further investigation.</p>
<h2>Organize</h2> <p>Target Date: _____</p>		<p>The key to success is good organization. Use a calendar to organize your time. Work backward from the due date(s). Use a checklist to keep track of project accomplishments. Log all school projects, extracurricular activities and personal commitments on your project calendar.</p>
	<h2>Design Procedures</h2> <p>Target Date: _____</p>	<p>List MATERIALS and METHODS/PROCESSES used in your experiment. Identify and control your variables. Repeat the experiment several times to validate your results.</p>
<h2>Experiment</h2> <p>Target Date: _____</p>		<p>Record all results and observations in a LABORATORY/PROJECT NOTEBOOK. Design charts and graphs that help you analyze and display your data.</p>
	<h2>Reach a Conclusion</h2> <p>Target Date: _____</p>	<p>Write an explanation of your results. Relate conclusions to your hypothesis. Write a conclusion statement and discuss whether or not you met your project objectives.</p>
<h2>Write a Report</h2> <p>Target Date: _____</p>		<p>Write a project report. THESE REPORTS SHOULD BE WORD PROCESSED, NOT HANDWRITTEN.</p>
	<h2>Create a Display</h2> <p>Target Date: _____</p>	<p>Design a 3-panel exhibit board. Outline your report and display your results (see the Research Project Board handout). Design a display or model of the experiment.</p>
<h2>Prepare your Presentation</h2> <p>Target Date: _____</p>		<p>PREPARE YOUR PROJECT PRESENTATION. Be prepared to answer a variety of questions and discuss the scientific concepts that support the study. Students should dress for a formal interview. The dress code for competitions is business or business casual.</p>
	<h2>FINISH</h2> <p>Target Date: _____</p>	<p>PARTICIPATE IN YOUR LOCAL SCHOOL COMPETITION. If you qualify to move on to Regional and/or State competition, follow the ONLINE ENTRY procedures available on the event websites.</p>