

Three Written Materials

A science fair project requires the following THREE PIECES of written materials:

1. Abstract: An abstract is written once your research and experimentation are complete. It should include a statement of the problem/ purpose of the experiment, the procedure used, your data and your conclusions. For the Canada-Wide Science Fair, your abstract must not exceed five double-spaced typewritten pages. Check locally for requirements of your regional fair. Abstracts are distributed to the judges to familiarize them with the project. The abstract is evaluated as part of the project.

2. Project Data Book: A project data book should contain accurate and detailed notes to demonstrate consistency and thoroughness to the judges and to assist you with your research paper.

3. Research Paper: A research paper includes the following sections:

- ❑ **Title Page:** Centre the project title and put your name, address, school and grade at the bottom right.
- ❑ **Table of Contents:** Include a page number for the beginning of each section
- ❑ **Introduction:** Includes your hypothesis, an explanation of what prompted your research and what you hoped to achieve.
- ❑ **The Experiment:** Describe in detail the methodology used to collect your data or make your observations. Include enough information for someone to repeat the experiment. Include detailed photographs or drawings.
- ❑ **Discussions:** Thoroughly discuss exactly what you did in your project. Your results should be compared with theoretical values, published data, commonly held belief and/ or expected results. A discussion of possible errors should be included as well as how the data varied between repeated observations, how your results were affected by uncontrolled events, what you would do differently if you repeated the project, and what other experiments should be conducted.
- ❑ **Conclusion:** A summary of your results.
- ❑ **Acknowledgements:** Credit individuals, businesses and educational or research institutions which assisted you. Identify financial support or in-kind donations.
- ❑ **References:** List any documents that is not your own (i.e. books, journals articles).