

Santa Cruz County Science Fair – Scoring Sheet

Project ID#: _____ Category: _____ Division: _____

Scoring Scale: Low = 1 Fair = 2 Good = 3 Excellent = 4

A. Scientific Thought or Engineering Goals

Scientific Thought

- The hypothesis is clearly stated and the student has a systematic plan for testing the hypothesis (methods)
- The project shows depth of study, effort, and understanding of theory or facts
- Project exhibits orderly recording and analysis of data.
- Sampling techniques and data collection are appropriate to the problem
- Scientific procedures are appropriate and organized
- Conclusions formulated are logical, based on the data collected, and are relevant to the hypothesis

OR

Engineering Goals

- The project has clear objective relevant to needs of potential user
- Product or process has been tested
- Product or process is both workable and feasible economically and ecologically
- Project exhibits orderly recording and analysis of data
- Testing procedures are appropriate and organized
- Conclusions are logical and based on the data collected

Notes	Point(s)

B. Creativity and Engagement

- Problem is original or is a unique approach to an old problem (considering the student's grade level)
- The equipment and/or materials are used ingeniously
- Project shows resourcefulness, creativity, or inventiveness in design
- The project appears to represent the student's own understanding and work
- Student displays engagement with data and considers multiple implications of results. For example: notices unusual data, alters design of experiment to accommodate unexpected data, asks and answers additional questions beyond original hypothesis
- Student can interestingly and logically explain absent or unusual results

Notes	Point(s)

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C. Skill and Thoroughness

- The study is complete within the scope of the problem
- Scientific literature has been searched
- Experiments have been repeated and careful records have been kept
- Special mathematical, computational, or observational skills are evident
- Student demonstrates special skill in construction or use of equipment
- All parts of notebook, report, and display are clearly labeled

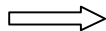
Notes	Point(s)
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D. Presentation and Analysis

- The purpose, procedures, and conclusions are clearly outlined
- Student uses bar graphs, line graphs, or other tables and diagrams appropriately
- The display is self-explanatory, with minimal redundancy
- Conclusions are logical and based on the data collected
- Student records and analyzes data in an orderly way, averages like data, shows range of data, and calculates statistical significance as appropriate to the data and student's age
- Student understands context for project and can explain implications or applications
- Student can orally summarize results in one or two sentences
- Student recognizes shortcomings of approach, if any, and can suggest improvements

Notes	Point(s)
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Other Considerations:

Total points for project (16 possible points)	
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