

Name: _____

Date: _____

Class: _____

RESEARCH PAPER – SCIENCE FAIR

7TH GRADE SCIENCE

Research Guidelines and Expectations:

- Feel free to use reliable websites but you must use at least one book, internet article, magazine article
- Research papers should be at least 2 page and no more than 3 pages in length, typed size 12 font, double spaced (Times New Roman or Arial) printed in black ink
- **Research the topics that are necessary for your Science Fair Problem.**
(Example: Does fertilized soil help plants grow at a faster rate than unfertilized soil? A student performing this experiment should **research soil** by first defining the term, explaining what it is, list and explain the composition of soil, etc. AND ALSO **research the type of plant** they are growing in the soil and its needs.)
- Incorporate the following paragraphs below and use as a reference to check your work.

Your research paper should have the following sections:

- **Proper Title** - Provide the **problem** you chose for Science Fair.
Ex: **Rich & Nutritious Vs. Bland & Dry** can be your title. Be creative.
- Opening paragraph: A **general introduction** of your chosen topic(s) that may include definitions, concepts, explanation of what a soil is and type of plant you are growing, etc.
- Body paragraph(s): Describe what you found out about this subject/topic/material etc. This is where you are **demonstrating you have gathered and learned new information about your topic.** (This should be more than one paragraph. The number of paragraphs depends on how much you researched, what you learned and what you found interesting. If you are having a difficult time gathering research or interesting information you should choose another topic!!!)
- Concluding paragraph(s): Summarize what was learned and how this information is useful to you. Why? How does it affect the future of mankind or nature? Be sure to demonstrate what you have learned/discovered overall by exploring this topic and what you possibly hope to get out of this overall Science Fair Experiment. (Remember you haven't performed the experiment yet.) Demonstrate you are learning and growing as a student scientifically. Would you consider researching this topic further in the future?
- Bibliography: Place on a separate page with proper title. (See information below)

Things to Remember:

- A research paper is written in the third person. (Do not use "I", me, us, we etc.)
- Read the information you gather and rephrase in your own words so that you understand what you are writing. (Pretend you are speaking to an audience in your age group.)
- Avoid the use of science terms you do not understand and if you do use the terms define them in context or provide definition on the bottom of the page.
- If you provide a direct quote from the author, use quotation marks or write their last name after the sentence. (Lozada)
- Please edit your work. Have an adult proof read your work before printing and compare it ***Flying High*** example. (Have this example out as you continuously work on your paper.)
- **Save** your research paper and all reference material **on a flash drive and a computer!!!**

Organize your Research Paper by planning. Before you start to write think about the best order to discuss the major sections of your report. You want to begin with introducing your science topic with basic information and definitions. What should come next? Ask yourself what information the reader needs to learn first in order to understand the rest of the paper.

Bibliography

Bibliography: Record and list all resources you have used.

Internet sites: (web address – name of website and date you accessed the website)

Example:

<http://www.education.com/science-fair/article/gas-stations-surrounding-soil/> - Do Gas Stations Cause Soil Pollution - Accessed March 25, 2015

Magazine articles: Author’s last name, first name, “Title”, name of magazine, year published.

Example: Jamison, Andrew, “Machines are Here to Stay”, Scholastic News, April 1994.

Books: Author’s last name, first name, underline title of book; (publisher, city) year.

Example: Daniel, Lucy PhD.; New York Science, (McGraw-Hill-Glencoe, Columbus, Ohio) 2007

Be sure to list properly on a separate sheet of paper.

Mrs. Lozada

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Teacher page: new.schoolnotes.com/LozadaSci/

Please keep in mind this is case sensitive – do not write www. in front of address

or

Go to schoolnotes.com

Click on Student tab

Then enter Lozada or 11426 on Find Teacher page

Expectations for a level 4 project: The student consistently communicates most ideas clearly, and consistently uses scientific vocabulary in context. Identifies all variables accurately and presents sources correctly. Demonstrates they have learned something new and are challenging themselves to reach further.