Greater San Diego Science and Engineering Fair Workshop # 3

Presentations

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Science Fair Presentation Basics

- Neat, organized, professional
- Do not wait until the last minute!
- Practice, practice, practice!
- Communicate your project well
- Make sure your board fits regulations
  - **30 in. deep, front to back**
  - **48 in. wide, side to side**
  - **73 in. high on table top OR 108 if on floor**

Science Fair Poster Subheadings

- **Title**
  - Short (10 or less words) description of your project
  - Printed in large letters so it can be read easily
  - Be scientific and imaginative without

Science Fair Poster Subheadings (Con't)

- **Introduction (Background)**
  - Use large letters so it can be read easily
  - Give background info about the project
  - Assume the readers have little knowledge about the project
  - Record what other scientists have discovered about your subject in the past
  - Describe Purpose of the Project
  - Conclude with hypothesis

Science Fair Poster Subheadings (Con't)

- **Methods**
  - Describe subjects (#, ages, gender)
  - Describe materials & procedures used in the experiment
  - Give information about the experimental conditions (variables held constant, controls, etc.)

Science Fair Poster Subheadings (Con't)

- **Data**
  - Use Tables & graphs - summarize data
  - Shows data for groups– ***not*** for individuals
  - Graphs should be titled, axes labeled, neat
- **Results**
  - Summarizes findings presented in each table and graph
  - Mention the statistical analyses done

Science Fair Poster Subheadings (Con't)

- **Discussion**
  - Hypothesis was supported or disproved and WHY
  - Critique! Look for
    - Possible weaknesses in design
    - Limitations
    - Things that may have influenced the results
    - What can be done to improve the work in future

Demonstration Materials

- THESE ARE OPTIONAL
  - Makes exhibit more interesting
  - Helps others understand
- MUST PASS SAFETY CHECK
- Must **NOT** present hazards
- Photographs cannot show faces
- Exhibits are left in the hall for days and open to the public

Written Report & Log Book

- Spend time writing your report
- Acknowledgments in beginning of report
  - Thank those who helped (equipment, ideas, lab access, chemicals and other resources)
- Bibliography at end of report
  - List sources of info used in alphabetical order
- Have a log-book with raw data, dates, what was done on each date
- Attach report and log book to board
- **Quality not quantity is important**

Meeting the Judges

- Greet and introduce yourself
- How you became interested
- Background information
- Describe your procedure
- Refer to charts, graphs, & photographs
- Explain results
- Identify conclusions
- Discuss future plans/changes
- Ask if they have questions
- **Thank the judges at the end**

Tips for Presenting

- Wear nice clothes
- Be polite and practice good manners
- Make eye contact
- Stand to the side of your exhibit
- Speak clearly and with assuredness
- Try not to fidget; may distract judges

Presentation and Judges' Evaluation

- Have an oral presentation prepared
- Practice! Practice! Practice!
- Judges are trying to figure out whether you understand the project
- Show enthusiasm! This is your project, and be proud of it!

Do's & Don'ts at the Fair

- **Do** bring activities, such as a book to read
- **Do** become acquainted with neighboring presenters
- **Do** ask neighboring presenters about their projects, and tell them about yours if they express interest
- **Don't** laugh or talk loud
- **Don't** forget you are representing your school

Questions?

- Contact Us!
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- Workshop Director: Sharona Silverstein
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