

# What makes a great science project?

**THE QUESTION** - Think of a question or topic that interests you for your project. The question will usually start with: what, when, where, how, or why.

**RESEARCH** - Resources such as teachers, the library, and the internet can help provide background information.

**HYPOTHESIS** - Make an educated guess about what you think you will discover.

**PLAN YOUR EXPERIMENT** - Discuss your idea with your teacher and parents, and plan a time to perform your experiment. Make sure you allow sufficient time for your experiment. Next, gather all the materials you need to complete your project.

**CONDUCT YOUR EXPERIMENT** - Perform tests where you change only one variable at a time, keeping everything else constant. Repeat the experiment until you get consistent results.

**DATA** - Collect data from the experiments and document it in the form of notes, journals, photos, charts, and graphs.

**OBSERVATIONS** - Document your observations and include other information that may affect results, such as errors, temperature, and other variables.

**CONCLUSIONS** - Analyze the collected data and use it to answer your question and determine if the results support your hypothesis.

**COMMUNICATION** - Present each of these project components in an eye-catching poster, and prepare an energetic oral presentation describing your work.

