



Writing a Research Paper for Your Science Fair Project

Key Info

- As you do your research, follow your background research plan and take notes from your sources of information. These notes will help you write a better summary. More information about the background research plan can be found on the Project Guide page at www.sciencebuddies.org.
- The purpose of your **research paper** is to give you the information to understand why your experiment turns out the way it does. The research paper should include:
 - The history of similar experiments or inventions
 - Definitions of all important words and concepts that describe your experiment
 - Answers to all your background research plan questions
 - Mathematical formulas, if any, that you will need to describe the results of your experiment
- For every fact or picture in your research paper you should follow it with a citation telling the reader where you found the information. A citation is just the name of the author and the date of the publication placed in parentheses like this: (Author, date). This is called a reference citation when using APA format and parenthetical reference when using the MLA format. Its purpose is to document a source briefly, clearly, and accurately.
- If you copy text from one of your sources, then place it in quotation marks in addition to following it with a citation. Be sure you understand and avoid plagiarism! Do not copy another person's work and call it your own. Always give credit where credit is due!
- Most teachers want a research paper to have these sections, in order:
 - Title page (with the title of your project, your name, and the date)
 - Your report
 - Bibliography
 - Check with your teacher for additional requirements, such as page numbers and a table of contents

Overview

Year after year, students find that the report called the research paper is the part of the science fair project where they learn the most. So, take it from those who preceded you, the research paper you are preparing to write is super valuable.

What Is a Research Paper?

The short answer is that the research paper is a report summarizing the answers to the research questions you generated in your background research plan. It's a review of the relevant publications (books, magazines, websites) discussing the topic you want to investigate.

The long answer is that the research paper summarizes the theory behind your experiment. Science fair judges like to see that you understand why your experiment turns out the way it does. You do library and Internet research so that you can make a prediction of what will occur in your experiment, and then whether that prediction is right or wrong, you will have the knowledge to understand what caused the behavior you observed.

High School Science Fair Research Paper Example

SJ Ball



High School Science Fair Research Paper Example:

Science Fair Projects, Grades 5 - 8 John W. Rushin, 1999-03-01 This instructional book gets the teacher vote for a blue ribbon. Nine units cover all of the steps that students will need to follow when preparing science fair projects. Sections include choosing a prompt question, conducting research, designing a study, drawing results, conclusions, and presenting findings. A project time line, standard form letters, and two additional units provide helpful information for teachers and parents. Mark Twain Media Publishing Company specializes in providing captivating supplemental books and decorative resources to complement middle and upper grade classrooms. Designed by leading educators, the product line covers a range of subjects including mathematics, sciences, language arts, social studies, history, government, fine arts, and character. Mark Twain Media also provides innovative classroom solutions for bulletin boards and interactive whiteboards. Since 1977, Mark Twain Media has remained a reliable source for a wide variety of engaging classroom resources. **Janice VanCleave's A+ Science Fair**

Projects Janice VanCleave, 2003-08-08 A fabulous collection of science projects, explorations, techniques, and ideas. Looking to wow the judges at the science fair this year? Everyone's favorite science teacher is here to help. Janice VanCleave's A Science Fair Projects has everything you need to put together a winning entry with detailed advice on properly planning your project from choosing a topic and collecting your facts to designing experiments and presenting your findings. Featuring all new experiments as well as time-tested projects collected from Janice VanCleave's A series, this easy-to-follow guide gives you an informative introduction to the science fair process. You get thirty-five complete starter projects on various topics in astronomy, biology, chemistry, earth science, and physics, including explorations of the angular distance between celestial bodies, the breathing rate of goldfish, interactions in an ecosystem, nutrient differences in soils, heat transfer in the atmosphere, magnetism from electricity, and much more. You'll also find lots of helpful tips on how to develop your own ideas into unique projects. Janice VanCleave's A Science Fair Projects is the ideal guide for any middle or high school student who wants to develop a stellar science fair entry. *Using Statistics in Social Research* Scott M. Lynch, 2013-09-07 This book covers

applied statistics for the social sciences with upper-level undergraduate students in mind. The chapters are based on lecture notes from an introductory statistics course the author has taught for a number of years. The book integrates statistics into the research process with early chapters covering basic philosophical issues underpinning the process of scientific research. These include the concepts of deductive reasoning and the falsifiability of hypotheses, the development of a research question and hypotheses, and the process of data collection and measurement. Probability theory is then covered extensively with a focus on its role in laying the foundation for statistical reasoning and inference. After illustrating the Central Limit Theorem, later chapters address the key basic statistical methods used in social science research, including various z and t tests and confidence intervals, nonparametric chi-square tests, one-way analysis of variance, correlation, simple regression, and multiple regression, with a discussion of the key issues involved in thinking about causal processes. Concepts and topics are illustrated

using both real and simulated data The penultimate chapter presents rules and suggestions for the successful presentation of statistics in tabular and graphic formats and the final chapter offers suggestions for subsequent reading and study **The 2003 Presidential Awardees for Excellence in Math and Science Teaching** United States. Congress. House. Committee on Science,2004 **Resources in Education** ,2001 **Science Education in the Schools of the United States** National Science Foundation (U.S.),1965 **NSTA Guide to Planning School Science Facilities** LaMoine L. Motz,James T. Biehle,Sandra S. West,2007 NSTA Guide to Planning School Science Facilities will help science teachers district coordinators school administrators boards of education and schoolhouse architects understand differences and develop science facilities that will serve students for years to come **1972, National Science Foundation Authorization, Hearings Before the Subcommittee on Science, Research and Development, and the Committee...92-1, on H.R. 4743, Feb. 25; March 5, 23-26, 30; April 6, 7, 1971** United States. Congress. House. Science and Astronautics,1971

The Complete Workbook for Science Fair Projects Julianne Blair Bochinski,2004-11-29 Your personal coach and game plan for creating a unique and award winning science fair project Developing a science fair project from the ground up can be a daunting task and today s science fairs are more competitive than ever before The Complete Workbook for Science Fair Projects takes you step by step through the entire process of brainstorming finding completing and submitting an award winning science fair project of your very own The special features of this easy to use interactive workbook include Complete instructions and fun meaningful exercises to help you develop a science fair project idea from scratchExpert advice on choosing and researching a topic finding a mentor conducting an experiment analyzing your findings putting together a winning display and much moreInspiring stories of real projects that show how students solved particular problems This ingenious guide also helps you prepare to deliver a top notch oral presentation and answer questions from science fair judges Plus you ll find sample project journal worksheets a handy list of scientific supply companies and lots of space to record your thoughts and ideas as you work on your project Today s exciting world of science fairs and contests offers many great opportunities With The Complete Workbook for Science Fair Projects you ll learn to think like a scientist and create a more effective impressive science fair project opening the door for an amazing science journey Synergist ,1974

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