

Scientific Inquiry Judging Rubric

Rules and presentation:

- A scientific method of investigation followed
- must be the entrants' own work and must be original work
- must include a log book / journal, a completed and signed risk assessment form, and the report (scientific style report or poster)
- must meet Animal Ethics requirements if animals were used during the Scientific Inquiry
- any assistance must be acknowledged

Log book / Journal Rubric

Dates			All dates of work clearly recorded.	Most dates of work clearly recorded.	Dates not given or are unclear.
Notes	Log clearly shows extensive work in progress. Log contains all on-going thoughts and notes. Ideas recorded. Research notes recorded. Results recorded.	Log shows most on-going thoughts and notes. Most ideas recorded. Most research notes recorded. Most results recorded.	Log shows evidence of some on-going thoughts and notes. Some ideas recorded. Some research notes recorded. Some results recorded.	Log shows limited evidence of on-going thoughts and notes. Missing one significant component either ideas, research notes or results.	Log incomplete, missing the significant components of ideas, research notes or results.
Research	Extensive research related to topic done. Research links to the investigation. Three or more sources of information used. References recorded.	Some research related to topic done. Research links to the investigation. Two sources of information used. References recorded.	Some research related to topic done, but only one source of information used. Research links to the investigation. Reference recorded.	Some research related to topic done, but only one source of information used. Research not clearly linked to investigation. Reference recorded.	No research related to topic done. No sources of information used. References not recorded.
Results			All results clearly recorded.	Most results recorded.	No results recorded.
Risk Assessment and Assistance	Risks assessed and control measures clearly described. Full details of all assistance clearly given.	Most risks identified and their control measures clearly described. Good details of assistance given.	Some risks identified but little information on controlling them. Details of assistance outlined.	Risks identified but controls not listed. Assistance mentioned but details not given.	Risks not identified. Assistance not acknowledged but evident in project.

Scientific Inquiry Report Judging Rubric

Format		The report is clearly set out and is easily followed. Uses the headings given in rules or similar.	The report has all components but is not well set out.	The report is missing components or is difficult to follow.
Questioning and predicting	The question and prediction of the inquiry is clearly understandable.	Either the question or prediction of the inquiry is clearly understandable but not both.	The question and prediction of the inquiry is unclear.	No question and prediction of the inquiry is recorded.
Planning and conducting	Clearly explains the reasons for doing the inquiry. Many variables identified, clearly states the variable changed and the variable measured. 'Fair test' method clearly outlined. Steps done are detailed and clear, easy to repeat inquiry exactly.	Explains some reasons for doing the inquiry. Some variables identified, clearly states the variable changed and the variable measured. 'Fair test' method clearly outlined. Steps done are missing the detail needed to repeat inquiry exactly.	Does not have a clear reason for doing the inquiry. Only the variable changed and the variable measured are identified, no other variables. Attempts to outline a 'fair test'. Some of the steps done are unclear or incomplete.	Does not have a reason for doing the inquiry. Variables not clearly identified. Little or no evidence of a 'fair test'. Steps done are unclear.
Equipment and materials	All equipment listed. Risks identified, assessed and their control clearly described.	Most equipment listed. Most risks identified and their control clearly described.	Some equipment listed. Some risks identified but little information on controlling them.	Equipment not listed. Risks not identified.
Processing, analysing data	Result details accurately recorded. Presentation of results excellent and appropriate. Analysis highly detailed and patterns identified.	Result details accurately recorded. Presentation of results satisfactory. Some analysis and some patterns identified.	Result details accurately recorded. Presentation of results inaccurate or inappropriate. Little analysis and limited patterns identified.	Results obviously not recorded accurately. Presentation of results inaccurate or inappropriate. Poor analysis.
Evaluating	Identifies and explains appropriate improvements for the investigation. Clearly explains the usefulness of the investigation results. Shows appropriate thinking for future investigations on the topic.	Identifies and explains some appropriate improvements for the investigation. Gives some reasons why the investigation results are useful. Shows some thinking for future investigations on the topic.	Identifies and attempts to explain possible improvements for the investigation. Gives few reasons why the investigation results are useful. Shows little thinking for future investigations on the topic.	Does not identify nor explain possible improvements for the investigation. No reason given for the usefulness of the investigation results. No thought given to future investigation on the topic.
Communication	Conclusions from investigation clearly communicated. Scientific terms used extensively and correctly throughout the report. Contains extensive background information.	Conclusions from investigation communicated Most scientific terms used correctly in the report. Contains some background information.	Conclusions from investigation not clearly communicated. Few scientific terms used in the report or scientific terms used incorrectly. Contains little background information.	No communication of conclusions from investigation. No scientific terms used. Contains no background information.
Bibliography		Detailed recording of information sources.	Some recording of information sources.	Little or no recording of information sources.