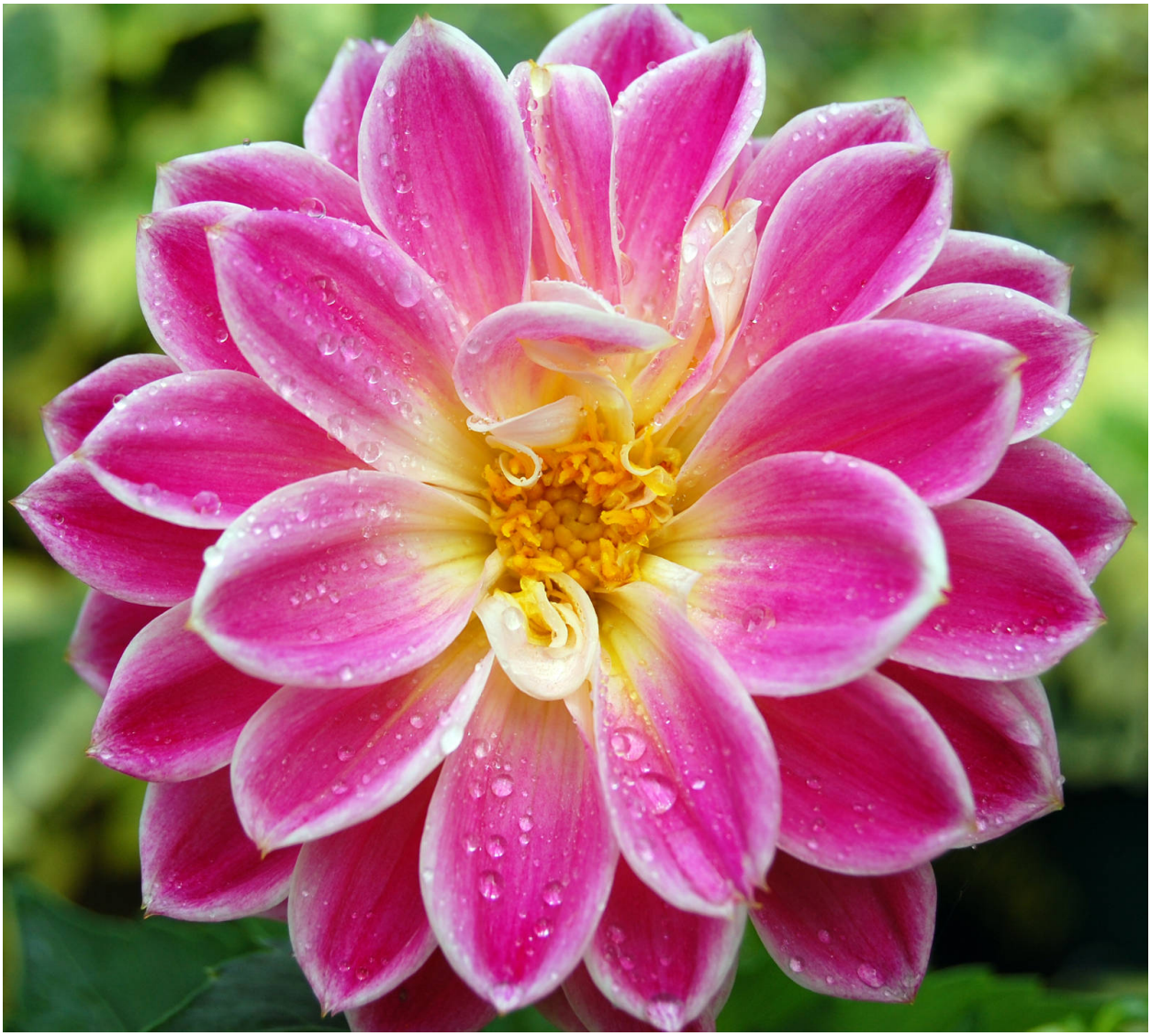
SCIENCE FAIR, 2025 - 2026

PLANNING PACKET

ARCHIMEDEAN MIDDLE CONSERVATORY



Your Name:

Class Section:

THIS PAGE IS DUE ON: 09/02/25

PROBLEM STATEMENT: THE QUESTION BEING EXPLORED IN THE EXPERIMENT

Directions: Write out your problem statement for this year's Science Fair Project on the lines below.

_____

_____

_____.

Problem Statement Self-Grading Checklist: Check the box if your problem statement meets the criteria being described.

- ☐ The problem statement shows what different groups will be compared
- ☐ The problem statement shows what measurements will be made

PROJECTS/ TOPICS THAT ARE NOT ALLOWED:

- No bacteria, live cultures, humans, or animals
- No explosive projects/launching rockets (alka-seltzer, soda, etc)
- No dangerous or harmful substances (fire, strong acids)
- Projects must have a reasonable application

Students, check with your parents/guardians to make sure they are OK with the project you are choosing! Have them read and sign the statement below

I have read my student's proposed science fair problem statement, and I am willing and able to provide the materials and support to conduct the experiment with them:

_____ (guardian signature)

FOR TEACHER USE: IS THIS PROJECT APPROVED?
YES / NO

You may use any of the ideas below for your science fair project, OR you may choose your own.

TOPIC: CHEMISTRY

- Do all red flowers have the same pigments/ chemicals that produce color?
- Which fruits can ruin your gelatin dessert?
- Does lemon juice or sugar water preserve apple slices better?
- Are different brands of black markers made with the same color pigments?

TOPIC: EARTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

- Which filtering method for water is best?
- Can pH affect the erosion of concrete buildings?
- Does salt water cause more soil erosion than freshwater?
- How does water quality compare at different Miami beaches?
- How do plants influence soil erosion?
- How does pH affect the erosion of rocks?
- What conditions are best to grow Florida native plants?

TOPIC: ENGINEERING

- Does the shape of a boat change how much weight it can carry?
- What is the best material to put in a sandbag to prevent flooding?
- How does the shape of a parachute affect flight?

TOPIC: PLANT SCIENCES

- What organic farming method is best to keep pests away?
- How often should one add compost when growing vegetables?
- What are the effects of hydrogen peroxide on the roots of plant cuttings (or seed germinations?)
- What is the best method to germinate Florida native seeds?

THIS PAGE IS DUE ON: 09/08/25

BIBLIOGRAPHY: SOURCE INFORMATION FOR THE 5 ARTICLES YOU WILL USE IN YOUR BACKGROUND RESEARCH

Directions: Find five different articles on the internet that are related to your project and fill out the information below for each article.

Source 1:

- Name of Article:
  _____
- Author or company name:
  _____
- Copyright date or date the article was published:(if there's no date, just write no date)_____
- Date you went to the website: _____
- Link to website (make sure you include the full link):
  _____

Source 2:

- Name of Article:
  _____
- Author or company name:
  _____
- Copyright date or date the article was published:(if there's no date, just write no date)_____
- Date you went to the website: _____
- Link to website (make sure you include the full link):
  _____

Source 3:

- Name of Article:
  _____
- Author or company name:
  _____
- Copyright date or date the article was published:(if there's no date, just write no date)_____
- Date you went to the website: _____
- Link to website (make sure you include the full link):
  _____

Source 4:

- Name of Article:
  _____
- Author or company name:
  _____
- Copyright date or date the article was published:(if there's no date, just write no date)_____
- Date you went to the website: _____
- Link to website (make sure you include the full link):
  _____

Source 5:

- Name of Article:
  _____
- Author or company name:
  _____
- Copyright date or date the article was published:(if there's no date, just write no date)_____
- Date you went to the website: _____
- Link to website (make sure you include the full link):
  _____

THIS PAGE IS DUE ON: 09/08/25

Bibliography Self-Grading Checklist: Check the box if your Bibliography meets the criteria being described.

- ☐ I listed 5 different articles
- ☐ I included the title of each article
- ☐ I included the author or company name for each article
- ☐ I included the date I found each article
- ☐ I included the date each article was published, or I wrote "no date" if copyright date cannot be found
- ☐ I included the full link to each article

HELP FOR FINDING YOUR ARTICLES:

- You are NOT finding the answer to your problem statement; you will find the answer to your problem statement by doing the experiment
- Make a list of "key words" from your problem statement that you can google
    - For example, if your project involves bean plants, google the key word "bean plants" to find an article about how to take care of them
- You can look for articles explaining what the materials you are going to use are made of.
    - For example, if you are using bleach, google what bleach is made of
- You can look for articles that will help you decide what materials to use.
    - For example, if your problem statement is: which soil is best to grow bean plants, then you can google different types of soil that you may want to use
- You can look for articles that help you figure out how to do the experiment
    - For example, if you are testing different boat shapes, you can find articles explaining how to make the different boat shapes

THIS PAGE IS DUE ON: 09/08/25

BACKGROUND RESEARCH: A PARAGRAPH OR MORE THAT SUMMARIZES WHAT YOU LEARNED FROM THE 5 ARTICLES LISTED IN YOUR BIBLIOGRAPHY

Directions: Write your paragraph (or more) on the lines below. You MUST include the following:

- At least one quote from all 5 articles listed in your bibliography.
- Every quote must be included in a sentence that states the author or company name.
    - For example: According to Chocolatelovers.com, "dark chocolate has the highest amount of caffeine."
- Every quote must be followed by an explanation of what that quote means or why that quote is important to your project.
    - For example: According to Chocolatelovers.com, "dark chocolate has the highest amount of caffeine." This shows that someone who can't have caffeine should eat white chocolate instead of dark chocolate.

THIS PAGE IS DUE ON: 09/08/25

Background Research Self-Grading Checklist: Check the box if your Background Research meets the criteria being described.

- ☐ I included a quote from Source 1 that is listed in my bibliography
- ☐ I mentioned the author name or company name in the sentence that has the quote for Source 1
- ☐ I explained why the quote from Source 1 is important and/or what it means
- ☐ I included a quote from Source 2 that is listed in my bibliography
- ☐ I mentioned the author name or company name in the sentence that has the quote for Source 2
- ☐ I explained why the quote from Source 2 is important and/or what it means
- ☐ I included a quote from Source 3 that is listed in my bibliography
- ☐ I mentioned the author name or company name in the sentence that has the quote for Source 3
- ☐ I explained why the quote from Source 3 is important and/or what it means
- ☐ I included a quote from Source 4 that is listed in my bibliography
- ☐ I mentioned the author name or company name in the sentence that has the quote for Source 4
- ☐ I explained why the quote from Source 4 is important and/or what it means
- ☐ I included a quote from Source 5 that is listed in my bibliography
- ☐ I mentioned the author name or company name in the sentence that has the quote for Source 5
- ☐ I explained why the quote from Source 5 is important and/or what it means

Name_____DATE_____Section___

THIS PAGE IS DUE ON: 09/15/25

HYPOTHESIS: AN EDUCATED PREDICTION ON WHAT THE OUTCOME OF THE EXPERIMENT WILL BE; BASED ON BACKGROUND RESEARCH

Directions: write out your hypothesis for your science fair project on the lines below.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Hypothesis Self-Grading Checklist: Check the box if your hypothesis meets the criteria being described.

- ☐ the hypothesis predicts what will happen to each test group
- ☐ the hypothesis supports the prediction with what was learned from the background research

VARIABLES: OUTLINES HOW THE EXPERIMENTAL SET-UP WILL BE CONTROLLED. THERE ARE FOUR VARIABLES:

- Independent Variable: the **one** characteristic that is different between all test groups
- Dependent Variable: the measurements being made / data being collected
- Constants: **all** the characteristics that will remain the same between the test groups
- Control Group: the **one** test group that is under normal conditions

Directions: write out your variables for your science fair project. All experiments must have all four variables identified.

- ★ Independent Variable:

  _____

- ★ Dependent Variable:

  _____

- ★ Constants:

  _____

  _____

  _____

- ★ Control Group:

  _____

Variables Self-Grading Checklist: Check the box if your variables meet the criteria being described.

- ☐ I only have one independent variable
- ☐ the independent variable identifies what is different between my test groups
- ☐ the dependent variable identifies what is going to be measured as the experiment is done
- ☐ the constants list all characteristics that will be the same amongst all test groups
- ☐ the control group identifies the one test group that is under normal conditions

NAME_____**DATE**_____**SECTION**_____

THIS PAGE IS DUE ON: 09/22/25

MATERIALS: A LIST WITH DETAILS OF ALL OBJECTS BEING USED IN THE EXPERIMENT

Directions: List all objects used in the experiment using the bullet points below. You must include: the name of the object, the amount needed, the size if applicable, and any other relevant details.

-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-

Materials Self-Grading Checklist: Check the box if your materials meet the criteria being described.

- ☐ Name of all objects was included
- ☐ quantity of all objects was included
- ☐ size of objects was included, as necessary

THIS PAGE IS DUE ON: 09/22/25

PROCEDURES: A LIST OF STEPS/ACTIONS NEEDED TO CONDUCT THE EXPERIMENT

Directions: Use the numbers below to write out step by step directions on how to do the experiment. Be specific and make sure you include directions for repeating for 3 trials.

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.
7.
8.
9.
10.
11.
12.
13.
14.
15.
16.

17.

18.

19.

20.

21.

22.

23.

24.

25.

26.

Procedures Self-Grading Checklist: Check the box if your procedures meet the criteria being described.

- ☐ Directions are provided on what to do for all test groups
- ☐ Directions specify how to measure out any liquids or materials that need measuring
- ☐ Directions specify how to repeat for 3 trials
- ☐ Directions specify what to do with all materials being used

THIS PAGE IS DUE ON: 10/13/25

DATA TABLE: DISPLAYS THE MEASUREMENTS FOR ALL TRIALS AND AVERAGES

Directions: fill in the table below as you do your experiment. If you don't need to use all the rows, you may leave them blank.

Title:

INDEPENDENT VARIABLE:	TRIAL 1:	TRIAL 2:	TRIAL 3:	AVERAGE:

CALCULATING THE AVERAGE: $\frac{trial\ 1+trial\ 2+trial\ 3}{3}$

Data Table Self-Grading Checklist: Check the box if your Data Table meets the criteria being described.

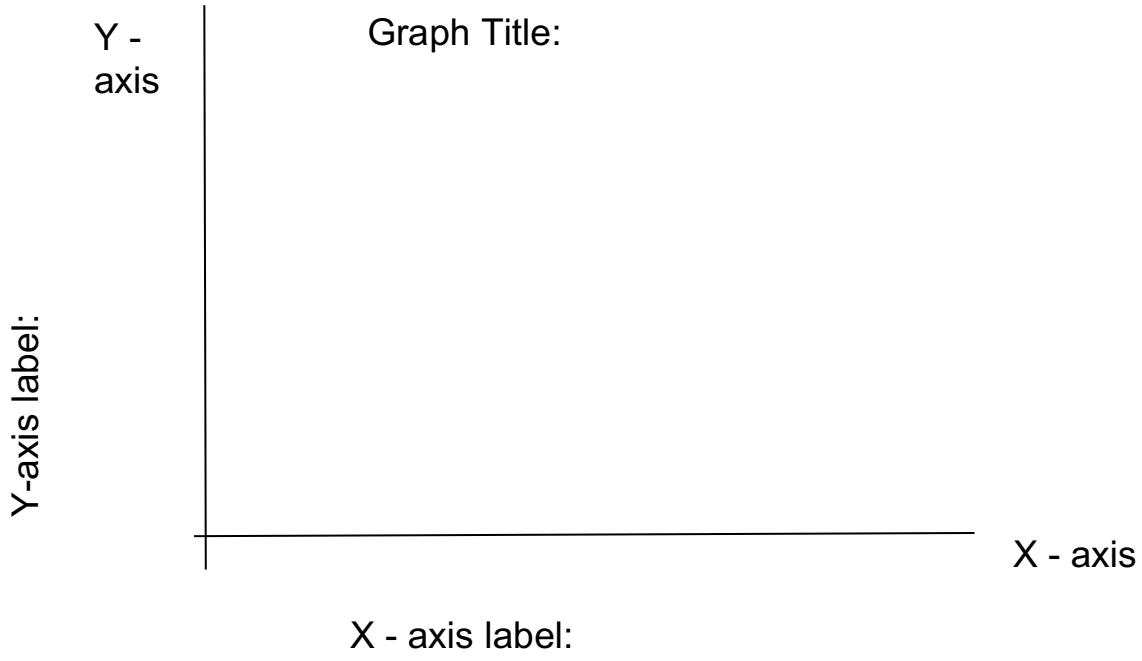
- ☐ The data table has a title
- ☐ All test groups are included in the table
- ☐ The independent variable is labeled
- ☐ Measurements for all 3 trials are shown
- ☐ The average for each test group was calculated and included on the table

THIS PAGE IS DUE ON: 10/13/25

DATA GRAPH: PROVIDES A VISUAL OF THE OVERALL OUTCOME.

X-AXIS: INDEPENDENT VARIABLE

Y-AXIS: AVERAGE OF THE THREE TRIALS



Data Graph Self-Grading Checklist: Check the box if your Data Graph meets the criteria being described.

- ☐ The independent variable is labeled on the x-axis
- ☐ The dependent variable is labeled on the y-axis
- ☐ The markings on the x- and y-axis are of equal intervals/jumps
- ☐ The graph has a title
- ☐ The average from the data table is plotted properly on the graph

THIS PAGE IS DUE ON: 10/21/25

RESULTS: A PARAGRAPH DESCRIPTION OF WHAT THE TABLE AND GRAPH SHOWS

Directions: Using complete sentences, write out what was observed for each test group. Include values for all averages in your sentences. At the end of your paragraph, discuss the overall pattern: which test group had the highest measurement and which test group showed the lowest measurement?

Results Self-Grading Checklist: Check the box if your Results meets the criteria being described.

- ☐ The averages of the three trials were written in sentences for all test groups
- ☐ The overall pattern was written at the end of the paragraph

THIS PAGE IS DUE ON: 10/21/25

CONCLUSIONS: ANALYZES AND DISCUSSES WHAT CAN BE LEARNED FROM THE EXPERIMENT AND HOW IT CAN APPLY TO THE REAL WORLD.

Directions: Use the following fill-in-the-blank sentences to plan your conclusion section. You must answer all sentences.

My hypothesis was _____

_____

_____.

The results _____

(support -or- don't support) the hypothesis because _____

_____.

The errors that occurred during my experiment were _____

_____

_____.

If I were to conduct this science fair project again, I would improve it by

_____

_____

_____.

In conclusion, this experiment taught me _____

_____

_____.

What was learned in this experiment can be useful in the real world because

_____

_____.

Conclusions Self-Grading Checklist: Check the box if your Conclusions meet the criteria being described.

- ☐ All fill-in-the-blank sentences were answered.
- ☐ I included as much detail as I can think of for all sentences
- ☐ Multiple errors were discussed

ABSTRACT: A SUMMARY OF ALL STEPS OF THE EXPERIMENT

Directions: Use the following fill-in-the-blank sentences to plan your Abstract section. You must answer all sentences.

The purpose of my science fair project was to test _____.

The hypothesis for this project was _____ _____.

This hypotheses was tested by measuring _____.

The factor that was different between all test groups was _____.

The factors that were kept the same were _____.

The control group was _____.
The results of this experiment were _____.

The results show that the hypothesis was _____ (supported or not supported) because_____ _____ _____.

If one were to further test this problem statement in the future, one can improve the experiment by_____.

This project can help the world by _____ _____.

Abstract Self-Grading Checklist: Check the box if your abstract meets the criteria being described.

- ☐ All fill-in-the-blank sentences were answered.
- ☐ I included as much detail as I can think of for all sentences