

Journaling

Scientific Journaling

The journal is your most treasured piece of work. In any experiment, a scientist must make observations and record ALL relevant data pertaining to the experiment. The journal begins as soon as a question is approved. A journal entry should be completed every time you work on the investigation. Examples include shopping for supplies (include receipt), writing a hypothesis, or brainstorming ideas.

Your journal should include the following:

1. Date of each entry
2. The question
3. Rough drafts of each step to include mark-ups
4. What you did that day
5. What you learned
6. Observations - what you saw, heard, felt, and smelled - use your senses
7. Anything unexpected that happened
8. Problems encountered along with solutions to the problems
9. What problems still need to be solved
10. What else needs to be accomplished
11. Drawings that might help explain the investigation
12. Measurements from the experiment
13. Data tables and charts to organize the information
14. Plan(s) for the next day

Science Fair Rubric Checklist – Journal

<i>Expectations - Journal</i>	<i>Points</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Typed label - “Journal” (large font) glued to front of composition book ▪ Handwritten ▪ Completed in pen (blue/black ink only); NO white-out ▪ Dated entries ▪ Rough drafts of each step ▪ Accurate and detailed notes ▪ <u>Factual</u> notes (no opinions) ▪ Sentences/phrases ▪ Problems/solutions ▪ Drawings/Observations/Brainstorms ▪ Measurements ▪ Data table/chart ▪ Mark ups with arrows, rewrites, etc. ▪ Rubric placed inside of composition book (front) 	30
SCORE	

Saving Work – Thumb Drive/Memory Stick

All assignments are required to be typed (Times New Roman/12/double-spaced) with the exception of the forms and the journal. All work related to science fair is required to be saved on a thumb drive and possibly one other location. A folder titled “Science Fair” should be created with each step saved under the assignment title (i.e. “Question”). Students are required to have a thumb drive with them daily in order to work on assignments as needed.