2015 SAN MATEO COUNTY STEM FAIR PROJECT JUDGING CRITERIA [SCIENCE]

Scored Sections	Possible Points
A. Project Display Board □ Sections are neatly and clearly labeled. □ Spelling and grammar are correct. □ All sections are completed. □ Follows standard formatting for citations □ Board meets dimension requirements. □ Produced with quality and creativity in mind. □ Diagrams, drawing, photographs and models are appropriate, supportive of the purpose of the project and attractive.	**5**
B. Scientific Thought, Content and Organization □ Based on a clear question □ Clearly stated and testable hypothesis. □ Procedural steps were listed. □ Shows understanding of scientific facts or theories. □ Well thought out and used an approach that was reasonable and appropriate for the question, hypothesis, student's age and available resources. □ If experiment, variables are used and identified. □ Sampling techniques and data collection are appropriate to the problem. □ Data is displayed in a clear and organized manner, preferably using a data table, graphs, etc. Metric system is used. □ Conclusions are relevant to question and hypothesis and are based on collected data.	**10**
C. Creativity, Originality and Skill Level □ The problem is new, different and/or meaningful. □ An original or creative approach was used. □ Safety and technical issues were addressed. □ Scientific literature has been searched. □ The approach and level of difficulty were reasonable for a student of this age. □ The study was carefully designed and appropriate for the student's age. □ The study was clearly the student's work. All help should be noted and credited. □ Student demonstrates knowledge of the topic by providing rationale for data and conclusions and by suggesting future extensions/research.	**15**
D. Interview □ Student prepared a brief (1-2 minute) presentation. □ Student's answers indicate comprehension of scientific principles and practices. □ Interview leaves no doubt that the student understands the project and that the project was done by the student. □ Student is able to explain every aspect of the project in a clear and concise manner. □ If a group project, each member shows understanding of the work (although different group members might have had different responsibilities within the team).	**10**