

SCIENCE FAIR PROJECT IDEAS

Where to start

1. Think of a topic.

Pick a topic that interests you. Narrow this topic down as much as possible.

BE VERY SPECIFIC. Example:

Drugs	Too general
Over-the-counter drugs	Too general
Cold Remedies	General
Aspirin	Specific
Dissolved Aspirin	Very Specific

2. Think of at least three keywords or short phrases that you could "Google" on the topic to gain a better understanding before experimenting.

3. Think of the topic in the form of a question.

Example:

How will _____ affect _____?
(variable) (result)

The variable is the factor you plan to change (or use in different amounts) in the experiment. Everything else is controlled.

The result is the outcome of your experiment. It is what happens because of your variable.

4. Think about what you could measure during the experiment.

You must have measurable results, something that can be counted or measured in order to provide you with data. Keep in mind that you will be required to make graphs from your data, so you will need numbers for these graphs.

Example: How will temperature affect the number of times a cricket chirps in an hour?

The variable is temperature.

The result is the number of times a cricket chirps in an hour.

The data will come from the experimenter counting the number of chirps in an hour.

5. Think about repeating the experiment enough times to make your results valid.

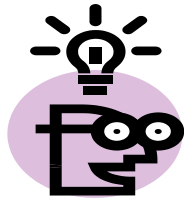
You will not be able to form a conclusion based on only a few trials. You must repeat the experiment in order to demonstrate whether the results will be consistent or not.

In the example above, the experiment would need to be repeated numerous times at each temperature. You could get very tired of crickets before the end of this project!

6. Think about whether you have a good topic.

Can you answer yes to these questions?

1. Is my topic realistic? Is it something I can do?
2. Is my topic interesting to me?
3. Can I investigate my topic by experimenting and collecting data?
4. Are the materials I will need available and affordable?



Science Fair Ideas

Topic #1	Topic #2	Topic #3
Name 3 keywords or phrases you would use to "Google" this topic.	Name 3 keywords or phrases you would use to "Google" this topic.	Name 3 keywords or phrases you would use to "Google" this topic.
1.	1.	1.
2.	2.	2.
3.	3.	3.
What would you test?	What would you test?	What would you test?
What would you measure?	What would you measure?	What would you measure?