

4. Scientific Investigations and Observational Reports

For scientific investigations, this project involves researching a question you would like to find the answer to, designing a way to do an investigation to find that answer, careful record keeping, and repeating the investigation to verify the results. Describe what you learned with a display, using evidence from your investigation.

If you choose to do an observational report, you would need to report your results using a graph or tabulation and then write about your results. You could do an original observation report of an ecological area, recording/mapping specific plants and animals. You should include a dated logbook and a research report describing what was observed. May include photographs, video or drawings.

Examples of scientific investigations:

How is stained or painted wood affected by sunlight, temperature, type of wood, type of paint or stain?

Do heavy or light objects fall faster?

Does heart rate increase with increasing sound volume?

Examples of observational reports:

Observing the types and numbers of birds attracted to a bird feeder.

The kinds of plants growing in your schoolyard.

Do drivers stop behind cross walks?

5. Inventions

Creating an invention to solve a problem, or a way to do something in a new and better way.

Examples:

Design a solar cooker to cook a hot dog.

Design and build a better kind of skateboard.

Invent a new type of toy, for example, a new type of spinner.