

Category Descriptions

Please read **each** description and choose your category **CAREFULLY** to ensure your project is judged properly.

Your project could be *outstanding*, however, if miscategorized, it will be overlooked by the judges.

Behavioral and Social Sciences:

Human and animal behavior, social and community relationships— psychology, sociology, anthropology, archaeology, ethology, ethnology, linguistics, learning, perception, urban problems, reading problems, public opinion surveys, educational testing, etc.

Biochemistry:

Chemistry of life processes—cell biology, molecular genetics, enzymes, photosynthesis, blood chemistry, protein chemistry, food chemistry, hormones, etc.

Botany:

Study of plant life—agriculture, agronomy, horticulture, forestry, plant taxonomy, plant physiology, plant pathology, plant genetics, hydroponics, algae, etc.

Chemistry:

Study of nature and composition of matter and laws governing it— physical chemistry, organic chemistry (other than biochemistry), inorganic chemistry, materials, plastics, fuels, pesticides, metallurgy, soil chemistry, etc.

Computer Science:

Study and development of computer software and hardware and associated logical devices.

Consumer Science: **For Middle School Grades Only

The testing and comparison of consumer products for their intended use.

Earth and Space Sciences:

Geology, mineralogy, physiography, oceanography, meteorology, climatology, astronomy, geology, speleology, seismology, geography, etc.



Engineering:

Technology; projects that directly apply scientific principles to manufacturing and practical uses—civil, mechanical, aeronautical, chemical, electrical, photographic, sound, automotive, marine, heating and refrigerating, transportation, environmental engineering, etc.

Environmental Sciences:

Study of pollution (air, water, and land) sources and their control; ecology.

Mathematics: Development of formal logical systems or various numerical and algebraic computations and the application of these principles— calculus, geometry, abstract algebra, number theory, statistics, complex analysis, and probability.

Medicine and Health:

Study of diseases and health of humans and animals—dentistry, pharmacology, pathology, ophthalmology, nutrition, sanitation, pediatrics, dermatology, allergies, speech and hearing, etc.

Microbiology:

Biology of microorganisms—bacteriology, virology, protozoology, fungi, bacterial genetics, yeast, etc.

Physics:

Theories, principles, and laws governing energy and the effect of energy on matter—solid state, optics, acoustics, particle, nuclear, atomic, plasma, superconductivity, fluid and gas dynamics, thermodynamics, semiconductors, magnetism, quantum mechanics, biophysics, etc.

Zoology:

Study of animals—animal genetics, ornithology, ichthyology, herpetology, entomology, animal ecology, paleontology, cellular physiology, circadian rhythms, animal husbandry, cytology, histology, animal physiology, invertebrate neurophysiology, studies of invertebrates, etc.

Team Projects:

All disciplines—multidisciplinary or interdisciplinary. Projects consist of 2 or 3 team members.

