

Topics for Consideration When Judging Junior Projects (Middle School Students)

The criteria and questions below are suggested as a guide for your judging of projects for Naval Science Award Certificates.

The judging process will focus on what the student has learned about his or her chosen project and the process used in completing the project.

1. Scientific Approach

- Did the student start with a clearly stated hypothesis or statement of an engineering goal?
- Was the student orderly and logical with the setup and follow through of the project?
- Were the student's conclusions consistent with the data he or she collected?

2. Knowledge of Project Area

- How effectively did the student conduct preliminary research?
- What was the extent of the student's knowledge of material related to project?
- Was the student aware of both the scope and limitations of the project?

3. Thoroughness

- Did the student do sufficient research in the literature before starting the project?
- Was thorough use made of data and observations?
- Was the original plan successfully followed through to completion?

4. Written Records and Reports

- Did the student keep an original bound logbook with all plans, procedures, observations, and conclusions for failures as well as successes?
- Did the student put together an accurate written report, complete with a bibliography?

5. Ingenuity and Creativity

- Was the explanation of the project clear and precise?
- How well did the student use his or her materials in the solution of problems?
- Did the student present any new or unique ideas?

6. Visual Presentation

- Was the project displayed in a logical and organized manner?

- Were charts and graphs used where needed?
- Did the display and posters effectively convey the message in an understandable manner?

Note: Topics for Consideration in Judging Junior Projects were taken from those published as Judging Criteria by Massachusetts State Science Fair, Inc.

Sample Scoring Sheet for Junior Projects (Middle School Students)

	Possible Points	Project Number
1. Scientific Approach	25	
2. Knowledge of Project Area	20	
3. Thoroughness	20	
4. Written Records and Reports	15	
5. Ingenuity and Creativity	15	
6. Visual Presentation	5	
Overall Score	100	