

HOW TO DO A SCIFEST PROJECT

Before you begin be sure to visit the SciFest website
www.scifest.ie



OFTEN THE MOST DIFFICULT PART
IS COMING UP WITH AN IDEA

- *Brainstorm with your team*
- *Talk to your parents, teachers and friends*
- *Check out the Internet and the library*
- *Think about interesting topics in science*
- *Investigate a hobby*
- *Discuss your ideas with an expert in the field*

CARRY OUT RESEARCH AND CHECK IF YOUR
IDEA IS WORKABLE

- *Can measurements be taken?*
- *Is the equipment available?*
- *Are all the experiments safe and are no harmful chemicals required?*
- *Could the project be completed in time?*
- *Have you discussed your idea with your teacher?*



WRITE OUT YOUR
'HYPOTHESIS'



- *Ask a question about something that you see: How, What, When, Who, Where, Which, or Why?*
- *A Hypothesis is an educated guess about something, e.g. Plants grow towards sunlight*

REMEMBER

A SciFest project is not just a demonstration you have copied off the Internet, e.g. building a lava lamp or putting Mentos into Coca-Cola. These demonstrations can sometimes be turned into an investigation, e.g. do crushed Mentos work better than whole ones or does the number of Mentos affect the height of the eruption?

CARRY OUT YOUR EXPERIMENTS



*It is very important that your experiment is a **FAIR TEST**.*

To do this you must:

- *Only change one thing at a time while keeping everything else the same*
- *Repeat the experiment a number of times*

RECORD YOUR RESULTS ON A TABLE AND DRAW GRAPHS IF POSSIBLE

- *Make a chart and, as you carry out your experiment, write down all your results*
- *When your experiment is finished study your results*
- *Examine them to see if your hypothesis is true or false*



ANALYSE YOUR RESULTS AND COME UP WITH CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS



- *Look carefully at your results to see if there are any patterns or trends*
- *How do your findings compare to existing knowledge*
- *Do your findings have applications in everyday life?*
- *If you were to continue to work on your project what would be your next step?*

You are now ready to present your project at a SciFest fair!

A completed SciFest project is made up of the following:

1. **A report book**
2. **A poster board**
3. **Oral presentation**



Contact Details:

M: 086 379 6143

E: info@scifest.ie

W: www.scifest.ie

