

## Science Night Independent Research Paper and Presentation

Overview: **Science Night is scheduled for February 4, 2009 from 6:30-8:30 PM.** All eighth grade students are expected to conduct an independent research project relating to scientific inquiry and to demonstrate their understanding of their topic in the following three ways: a) research paper; b) graphic representation of research; and c) oral presentation to at least one member of the Ashford community outside of the classroom.

### Eighth Grade Rubric:

	<b>Requirements</b>	<b>Possible Points</b>
<b>Research Paper</b> <b>First Draft Due: 12-15-08</b> <b>Final Draft Due: 1-12-09</b> Three to five pages typed, double-spaced, Times New Roman, 12 pt. font, using at least three different resources	Topic has been well-researched, ideas are presented in an organized way; information is scientifically accurate; interpretation is original	30
	Bibliography uses correct MLA format	5
	Bibliography is annotated	10
	Written document follows CT Science Fair format – Formal Lab Report (These points are available only to those who choose Path A: designing and conducting a controlled experiment.)	5
<b>Graphic Demonstration of Research</b> <b>First Draft Due: 1-12-09</b> <b>Final Draft Due: 1-26-09</b> (e.g. display board, model, poster, game board, imovie, PowerPoint, photos of experiment)	Information is clearly displayed with graphics, appropriate labels, sufficient level of detail, and strong organization	10
	Information is accurate and original (i.e. not plagiarized)	10
	Graphically pleasing: Color-coordinated, neat, easy-to-read font	10
	Graphic display invites interaction with an audience	5
	Display board follows CT Science Fair format (These points are available only to those who choose Path A: designing and conducting a controlled experiment.)	5
<b>Oral Presentation</b> <b>Due: 2-4-09 or 2-5-09</b> Presentation must be made to a member of the Ashford community.	Information presented was thorough and accurate	5
	Presented information in clear and confident manner. If group presentation, shared roles between members	5
<b>Total Points</b>		100

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### Schedule of Deadlines

Choose to follow either Path A or Path B	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Path A:</b>  <b>Connecticut Science Fair Qualifying Students</b>  <b>This path requires students to design and conduct a controlled experiment.</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Path B:</b>  <b>Research Project Only Students</b>  <b>This path does not require students to conduct a controlled experiment.</b></p>
Thursday 11-6-08 or Friday 11-7-08	Introduction of Science Night to 8 <sup>th</sup> grade students: Rubric, timeline, and research proposal sheets distributed	Introduction of Science Night to 8 <sup>th</sup> grade students: Rubric, timeline, and research proposal sheets distributed
Thursday 11-13-08 or Friday 11-14-08	Research Project Proposal Due This proposal requires five research questions and three annotated bibliographic citations of resources consulted.	Research Project Proposal Due This proposal requires five research questions and three annotated bibliographic citations of resources consulted.
Monday 12-1-08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experimental Design Due: This includes question, hypothesis, identification of variables, materials, procedures, and data table set-up.</li> <li>• <b>Science Fair Journal</b> Check-in</li> <li>• Original notes taken from at least three sources</li> </ul>	Research Notes/Outline Check-in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Original notes taken from at least three sources</li> <li>• Outline of research paper drafted</li> </ul>
Monday 12-15-08	First draft of Formal Lab Write-up, including conclusion and annotated bibliography, due. Controlled experiment should be conducted or in progress by this date.	First draft of research paper, including annotated bibliography, due
Monday 1-12-09	Final draft of Experiment Write-up, including conclusion and annotated bibliography, due  <b>Science Fair Journal</b> Final Check-in  First draft of Graphic Representation of project due	Final draft of research paper, including annotated bibliography, due    First draft of Graphic Representation of project due
Monday 01-26-09	Graphic Demonstration due (CT Science Fair qualifying display board with photos of experiment)	Graphic Demonstration of Research (model, poster, game board, iMovie, PowerPoint)
Wed.-Thurs., Feb. 3 <sup>rd</sup> or 4 <sup>th</sup> 2009	Oral Presentation of project to a member of the Ashford community	Oral Presentation of project to a member of the Ashford community