

JUDGE'S GUIDE

On behalf of our school's community, thank you for volunteering your time and expertise to assess our student's mastery of foundational skills they used to create, execute and communicate their Science & Engineering Fair projects! **We sincerely appreciate you providing our children with a positive and educational assessment experience.**

JUDGE'S GOALS

- **Help students share** their experience with you.
- **Objectively assess** student's
 - Science or engineering practices, and
 - Creativity, communication, problem solving, and collaboration skills
- **Provide positive and constructive feedback.**

STUDENT'S GOALS

- **Have fun creatively exploring their genuine interest** in a scientific, engineering or computer science context.
- **Develop the critical thinking skills** necessary to plan, design, implement and evaluate their project.
- **Clearly verbally and non-verbally communicate** what they learned.

INTERVIEW TIPS

- Start by introducing yourself and greeting the student very positively.
- **If students' results are inconclusive, then that's okay** as long as they have thought through how they might improve their approach in order to get "good" results.
- **Please don't make negative comments** about students or their projects.

INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

Ask encouraging questions to help students explain what they've learned, such as:

- *Can you tell me about your project?*
- *How did you come up with your project topic?*
- *What was your favorite part of your project?*
- *Was there anything that was surprising to you?*
- *Can you explain this chart to me?*
- *If you were going to do this project again, what might you do differently?*

FEEDBACK

Comment on what you find are the strongest elements of the student's project and presentation. **Please realize that your feedback at this grade-level can either inspire children or turn them off from STEM altogether. Any negative comments can be devastating at this age.** For example, you might precede any of the following with **Nice, Good, Great** or **Outstanding**:

- work/job!
- ... project topic!
- ... developing your procedure!
- ... defining the variables and constants!
- ... of photos/tables/graphs and organization of your display board!
- ... communicating your project during our discussion!