Judge(s) # _____

Lincoln Elementary Science Fair
Experimental Project Scoring Guide

1. **Investigation of the Problem:** How well is the statement of the problem written? Is it clear? Is the independent variable in the problem statement?
   (0) No problem statement.
   (2) Incomplete problem statement.
   (5) Complete problem statement.
   (8) Complete, well-written problem statement.

2. **Review of Literature or Research:** How thorough is the research? How "educated" is the experimenter? Did the experimenter make an effort to become educated before the hypothesis?
   (0) No research information is provided.
   (2) Very little research is provided.
   (5) A sufficient amount of research was provided and written in student's own words.
   (8) An exemplary amount of research was provided and written in student's own words.

3. **Bibliography:** *(in packet in front of the board)* Is it correctly written? Is there an adequate amount of sources? Do the sources seem credible? (Search engines do not count as credible sources.)
   (0) No bibliography provided.
   (2) Information is incorrectly written and/or inadequate.
   (5) Information is correct and adequate.
   (8) Information is correct and exceeds the amount of sources/types needed to be adequate.

4. **Hypothesis:** To what degree is this a testable prediction? Is enough detail provided?
   (0) No hypothesis provided.
   (2) Incomplete hypothesis provided.
   (5) Hypothesis present, but not completely testable.
   (8) Well-written, testable hypothesis.

5. **Experimental Procedures:** Does it list materials? Are the directions listed step-by-step? Are the directions easy to follow? Are they "in-detail?"
   (0) Experimental procedures are not listed.
   (2) Experimental procedures are incomplete and/or not listed step-by-step.
   (5) Experimental procedures are nearly complete and listed step-by-step.
   (8) Experimental procedures are very clear and listed step-by-step.

6. **Variables:** How well are the variables identified? Are there independent, dependent, and constant variables listed? Was the experiment conducted using the correct variables?
   (0) No variables are identified.
   (2) Variables are identified but incorrect.
   (5) Variables are identified correctly.
   (8) Variables are identified and carefully presented.

7. **Data Collection:** To what degree are the method, number of trials (at least three), and quantity of data? Does it have scientific measurements like length, weight, etc.? It should not be based entirely on opinion (like "It looks cleaner.")
   (0) No quantitative data collected.
   (2) Insufficient data collected.
   (5) Sufficient data collected.
   (8) Data collected above expectations.

8. **Data Presentation:** How well do the graphs, tables, logs, pictures, charts, or other visual aids present the data? *(May have to check the packet in front of the board as well.)*
   (0) No presentation of data.
   (2) Data partially and/or not clearly presented.
   (5) Data sufficiently and clearly presented.
   (8) Data presentation exceeds expectations.

9. **Data Analysis:** How well are the results and conclusions identified and interpreted? How important are the findings?
   (0) No results/conclusions identified.
   (2) Incomplete results/conclusions identified.
   (5) Apparent results/conclusions identified.
   (8) Inherent, significant results/conclusions clearly identified.

10. **Future Application/Study/Research:** How well are new relationships, ideas, and/or additional investigations identified and presented? Does it relate to current investigation? What would be the next experiment to follow?
   (0) No application/study identified.
   (2) Application/study vaguely identified.
   (5) Apparent application/study identified.
   (8) Significant, practical application/study identified.

11. **Visual Display:**How well is the project constructed and organized? Are spelling and sentence structure correct?
   (0) Poor display, construction, and/or several grammar errors.
   (2) Fair display, construction, and/or some grammar errors.
   (5) Good display, construction, and/or minimal grammar errors.
   (8) Exemplary display, construction, and/or very few grammar errors.

12. **Scientific Thought:** Is the topic an appropriate subject for scientific investigation? Is it sufficiently narrow? Does the topic relate to everyday life?
   (0) Topic not justified for scientific thought.
   (2) Subject is appropriate, but too broad for investigation.
   (5) Topic is appropriate and well-suited for investigation.
   (8) Topic is original and relates to everyday life.

Project #_____Project Title_____Score_____

One or more positive comments:

One positive suggestion: