Criteria For Judging Science Fair Exhibits

As a general rule, judge only what is exhibited. You may note what might be added, deleted, or improved in the future. Use the comment section for these remarks. Base your scoring on the work actually done by the student, not on the value of the equipment purchased or borrowed.

IF YOU WANT THE TEACHER OR THE STUDENT TO BE GIVEN YOUR COMMENTS, PLEASE GIVE THIS SHEET TO THE MATH-SCIENCE FAIR COORDINATOR. Otherwise, please take these sheets home and destroy them.

I. CREATIVITY ABILITY (30 points):
   A. How much of the work appears to show originality of approach and handling?
   B. Was there ingenious use of the materials?
   C. If a collection, is it purposeful?

II. SCIENTIFIC THOUGHT (30 points):
   A. Does the exhibit show organized procedures?
   B. Are observations accurate?
   C. Was there a “control group” in the experiment?
   D. Is there verification of a scientific theory?
   E. Does it explain a “cause and effect” relationship?

III. THOROUGHNESS (15 points):
   A. How completely is this story told?
   B. Have several sources of information been used? Step-by-step detail of construction is not necessary for full point value.

IV. SKILL (15 points)
   A. Is the workmanship of good quality?
   B. Will the exhibit demand frequent repairs?
   C. Will the exhibit demand constant attention?
   D. In collection, is the display skillfully displayed to show important points?

V. CLARITY and DRAMATIC VALUE (15 points):
   A. Will the average person understand what is being displayed?
   B. Are there misspelled words, poor grammar?
   C. Are there mislabeled materials or insufficient guide marks for the observer?
   D. Are descriptions too brief or too lengthy?
   E. Will spectator attention progress sensibly through the display?
   F. Is this display more attractive than others in the display?
   G. Are the sight, sound, smell, and/or touch of the display (at the display) at the correct intensity?
   H. Are there devices, gadgets, etc., which do not serve a purpose?

COMMENTS: