

# Science Lab Tools Topper

**Developing a Science Fair Project**

**Step 1 CHOOSE YOUR TOPIC**  
Explore your science interests before you choose a topic.  
Physical Science: Space, Living Matter, Physics, Chemistry, Geology, Astronomy, Meteorology.  
Life Science: Molecular Biology, Botany, Zoology, Ecology, Microbiology.  
Pick a topic that's interesting to you.

**Step 2 ASK THE BEST QUESTIONS**  
The best science investigation questions:  
1. can be answered by observing and using a few simple tools.  
2. are specific (that you can find out about).  
3. involve something that is easily observed and measured.  
4. build on an investigation you can perform at home.  
Does wind affect the amount of water a plant uses?

**Step 3 RESEARCH YOUR TOPIC**  
Use the Internet to find information. You can also look in the library for books, magazines, and newspapers.  
Fill out reference cards while searching on the Internet.

**Step 4 MAKE YOUR HYPOTHESIS**  
Even though you're a student, you can use the scientific method to investigate something that interests you in order to answer a question about the world.  
Hypothesis: I think that if I water a plant every day, it will grow taller than a plant that is not watered every day.

**Step 5 TEST YOUR HYPOTHESIS**  
Scientific Method:  
Ask a question.  
Review what is known.  
Form a hypothesis.  
Design an experiment to test the hypothesis.  
Observe the experiment and organize the results.  
Analyze the results and draw conclusions.  
Share the results with others.  
Descriptive Studies  
Correlation Studies  
Experimental Studies

**Step 6 PROJECT PROPOSAL**  
Write a project proposal as a journal that includes the following information:  
Student Name  
Topic  
Question  
Feasibility Study  
Time, Supplies, Information  
Hypothesis  
Experiment Design  
A description of exactly what needs to be done to complete your investigation. Close attention must be paid to every detail in writing up these exact procedures. Make sure the experiment can be repeated.

**Step 7 PRESENTING YOUR RESULTS**  
The data you obtain from your experiment is the most important information.  
Record your raw data using tables.  
The display board

**Step 8 MAKING YOUR OWN CONCLUSIONS**  
The main conclusion of any science investigation is a statement that either supports or rejects the hypothesis of the project.

**Step 9 WRITING YOUR PAPERS**  
Introduction • These questions to be explored, hypotheses, and equipment  
Methods and Materials • The essential parts that were completed and materials and other supplies  
Results • Data from experiments is summarized.  
Conclusions and Discussion • An explanation of why you accept or reject the hypothesis and how it applies to the world.  
Citation List • All the sources you made direct reference to in your paper.  
Reference List • Sources that you read that may have influenced your investigation.

**Step 10 PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER**  
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Standards are supported when products are used as shown.

## Components for This Bulletin Board Include:

- CD-410012 Science Lab Tools Bulletin Board Topper **NEW!**
- CD-5000 The Atom Straight Border
- CD-1950 Developing a Science Fair Project Bulletin Board Set