

2010 Almond Science Fair - Proposal Guidelines

- Students must be conducting an experiment. It should **NOT** be a product comparison or a demonstration that explains how something works.
- Do you have a testable question? Can the question be answered by the experiment?
- Does the procedure make sense?
- The experiment must be able to produce quantitative data, which allows the student to measure the results.
- The experiment should lend itself to creating chart and graphs.
- The experiment may also have qualitative data as well, but qualitative data does not tend to be objective.
- The experiment should **only manipulate one variable**; otherwise it would be difficult to infer what influenced the outcome of the experiment.
Controlled Variables: can the variables that should remain constant be controlled?
Independent Variable: is only one variable changing in order to run the experiment?
Dependant Variable: is the outcome of the experiment measurable?
- Is the experiment safe? The experiment **MUST** be **safe**. The County Science Fair does not allow experiments with mold, etc. It goes without saying that experiments should not use

explosives, dangerous chemicals, heat (without supervision), and fire. Anything that could cause injury to the student and/or property should NOT be allowed. Every year, I have experiments submitted that are unsafe and they are NOT allowed in the Science Fair.