

Young Scholars

In 2023, CASEF introduced the Young Scholars program for students in grades 5 and 6. Students are invited to conduct a research project and display it at the fair. The 2024 fair will judge these projects and they will be earning placement awards. This competition runs concurrently with the CASEF junior and senior divisions event. Students are invited to register at www.casefys.stemwizard.com The cost to enter is \$15 per project. Students are expected to conduct an experiment and present a trifold display board. Judging will take place on Monday evening between 4pm and 7pm.

Young Scholar Rules

1. Please follow safety protocol as appropriate for your experiment. Do you need goggles, gloves, special equipment, sharp tools, chemicals, tools, electrical equipment, etc.?
2. The project needs to be an experiment where a variable is tested. No models of science concepts will be accepted.
3. NO project may use human participants, animals, drugs/alcohol, firearms/explosives, nicotine products, hazardous materials/chemicals, microbes including bacteria and mold.
4. Please plan for proper disposal of waste and chemicals.
5. When registering, the PRIMARY email will receive the notification information and the parent email will be copied. If the sponsor is NOT the student or parent email, they will need to have the student log in information to check the progress and access to the student or parent email to monitor registration process.
6. Entry fee is \$15 per project. Please mail check to the CASEF mailing address: c/ 103 Newport Road, Duncannon, PA 17020 or pay with credit card on the CASEF website (a fee will be added) www.casef.org

Questions, please contact the fair director: director@casef.org

Young Scholars will be expected to discuss the following in the judging interview:

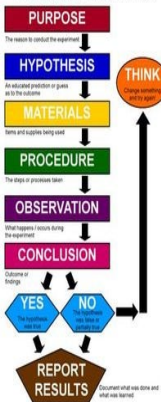
1. "Tell me about your project." – give a brief (1 -2 minute) summary about your project. It should cover what you investigated, how did you do the experiment, what data did you collect (state the averages), what did the data mean, and give a conclusion statement.
2. What did you find out when you did your background research? Connect the background research to your project and hypothesis.
3. Why was the topic interesting to you?
4. What were the variables (what was the one thing you changed to be tested)?
5. How does the data explain the original question/problem? How can the information you found out from your experiment be used?
6. What was the most difficult part of the project?
7. What was the most fun part of the experiment?
8. How did you clean up or dispose of materials?
9. What did you learn that surprised you?
10. What would you do differently?
11. How would you expand this project to learn more about the topic? What else do you want to know about this topic?
12. Explain how the display board was made/organized and how it tells the story of the project.
13. What is your next project going to investigate? This topic, or something new?
14. Who helped you with the project and how did they help?
15. Why did you want to participate?



YOUNG SCHOLARS JUDGING RUBRIC

Question	Points Available	Points Earned
1. Does the project have a testable question?	10	
2. Does the conclusion answer the original question?	10	
3. Is there evidence that a thorough, well-planned experiment was conducted? Is there evidence of creativity and a reason or application of the experiment?	10	
4. Was the scientific method used in the project?	10	
5. Is the project age appropriate and conducted with an acceptable level adult help?	10	
6. Is the display neat, cover the topic, and represent what is discussed in the interview?	10	
7. Does the interview demonstrate understanding of the topic and experiment?	10	
8. Does the journal show evidence of following the scientific method, accurate data collection and analysis, and application to the original question?	10	
9. Can the researcher explain areas for further research or improvement?	10	
10. Is the data collected significant to answering the question? Are there enough trials and is the analysis based on the data collected?	10	
TOTAL	100	

THE SCIENTIFIC METHOD



AWARDS

First: 90 – 100
 Second: 80-89
 Third: 70-79
 Honorable Mention: 69 or below

Judge _____