

Comparing Science Fair Projects to STEM Fair Projects

Traditional Science Fair Projects		STEM Fair Projects
A science Fair project is a unique way for students to pose questions for which they must seek out answers and to satisfy their own curiosity about the world around them	Purpose of the Process	A STEM Fair project is a demonstration of a solution that students have developed for what they deemed a “real world” problem
A science Fair project is an experiment, a demonstration, a research effort, a collection of scientific items, or display a scientific apparatus presented for viewing	Project Purpose	A STEM Fair project is a showcase of ingenuity, student self-reflection and product that solves a problem
It represents the efforts of a student’s investigation into some area of interest and provides a way for those students to share the results of those investigations	Sharing	It represents the student’s creativity, ingenuity and allows them the opportunity to share their product
Science Fair projects consists of three essential components: the display unit, the exhibit materials, and the written report	Project Components	STEM Fair projects consists of: a display unit, the product, the reflection
Science Fair projects offer students the opportunity to replicate a project they found on the internet	Project Origins	STEM Fair projects offer students the ability to create and test their own ideas
Science Fair projects are often a demonstration of ability in research and written skills	Project Types	STEM Fair projects focus on the product created from a hands on application that students created themselves
Science Fair projects are judged on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poster (colour, layout, etc.) • Presentation • Scientific Method 	Judging Criteria	STEM Fair projects are judged on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Problem Posed (how it relates to the student) • Originality • Scientific Conviction