

How to create a (no more than) clear and specific presentation

On fair day, during the judging time, each judge is approximately 6 minutes total to conduct their interview with each student. This includes time for questions between the judge and student. Below are guidelines to follow while preparing your presentation.

- Keep your presentation to 3 minutes, no more than 5 if it a complex project. This will allow time for judges to ask you questions. Remember that judges have a limited amount of time for each student.
- When a judge approaches you, stand up and introduce yourself using both your first and last names.

Planning your Presentation	
The day of the STEM Fair	
Allotted time	Presentation Topics
45 seconds	Problem or design: provide an explanation and include why you were inspired to do this project. What need did you see?
15 seconds	Goal/Hypothesis: Be clear and concise.
30 – 45 seconds	Method: Unless your methodology is the research, take no more than 30 – 45 s. If you have a complex biomedical or engineering project, be succinct.
30 – 40 seconds	Results: As you discuss results, reference where they can be found on your board.
<i>Optional</i>	<i>If you have ideas about future implications of your research include them after your results.</i>
Conclusion	Thank the judge for their time!
Know your audience	Target your presentation to the judge in front of you. If they seem confused, provide extra detail. It is okay to ask them, “Can I answer any questions?”. If they seem impatient, be more concise.
Preparing for the STEM Fair	
Rehearse and Relax: Do not memorize your presentation. Judges want to hear about your project from you speaking naturally.	
Practice in front of a mirror and/or with a family member. Pay attention to nervous habits like fidgeting with your hands, saying things like “Umm”, “like” that can be distracting when presenting.	
Anticipate extra questions judges may ask. Study your topic fully. If you are asked a question and you do not know the answer, be honest. Don’t “make up” and answer.	
Know and be prepared to discuss limitations discovered while completing your project or completing your data. This is as important as the project.	