

**GRADES 6-12**  
Judging Criteria  
**MAKER DIVISION**  
**Engineering**  
**Invention**

**ACADEMY OF SCIENCE – ST. LOUIS**  
**SCIENCE FAIR**

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Row: \_\_\_\_\_ Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Sequence  
Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Elements	Description of Criteria	Possible Score	Score
<b>DISPLAY BOARD &amp; LOGBOOK</b>			
<b>Components for judging can be either in log book or on poster</b>			
Title & Description	Title of project and overview of project	0 - 5	
Asking Questions & defining problems	Define the problem that you are trying to solve. Identify the need and constraints. Student considers: what do I want to design; who is it for; what do I want to accomplish; what are the project limitations and requirements; what is my goal.	0 - 5	
Research the problem	Research the problem. Student clearly defines why project is important or “how can I make this better.” Student documents researching what products or solutions already exist, or what technologies might be adaptable for their solution. Shows evidence student understands project. Research is age-appropriate. Research can be interviews with knowledgeable adults as well as reliable internet sources and books.	0 - 15	
Imagine	Develop possible solutions. Student describes ideas for solution to the problem. Student describes “brainstorming” of possible ideas.	0 - 15	
Plan	Select one solution and make a plan to develop your project. Describe your plan.	0 - 10	
Create	Build a prototype. Describe (or show through photos) the design process. Student demonstrates an understanding of the subject matter or innovative/creative way of approaching their project. <i>(Note to student: Items that are valuable or valued by the student are not to be displayed – use photos/illustrations instead)</i>	0 - 25	
Test & evaluate prototype. Improve & redesign as needed	Test and evaluate prototype. Student describes testing process. Student explores possible improvements and redesign if time permits. If student does not have time for a redesign, should describe possible alternate ideas for success. Points will NOT be taken off for prototype failure as we encourage open-ended problem solving as students nurture their ability for creative innovative solutions.	0 - 15	
Signed Safety Form & guidelines	All projects are required to have a signed safety form (placed on the inside cover of log book). Students should also provide detailed descriptions on how they followed the safety guidelines in their logbook.	0 - 10	
Total Possible Score		0 - 100	
2024 (revised 2022)		<b>TOTAL SCORE: _____</b>	