



2026-2027 STEAM Fairs Maker Division - Model Project Description & Rubric Preschool

Project Overview:

Create a model to show an idea or something you have learned. Your model may be built, made, or drawn using materials such as blocks, paper, clay, recycled materials, or art supplies. Use an engineering notebook to record your ideas and project work.

Project Steps:

Keep track of each step of your project in your *Engineering Notebook*. Preschool notebooks may include student drawings, student writing, adult writing, and words dictated by the student.

1. Choose Your Model

- Choose what you would like to make and why it is important to you.

2. Learn About Your Topic

- Explore books, pictures, videos, observations, or conversations to learn about your topic. Record important facts, words, or discoveries.

3. Plan Your Model

- Draw or describe what you want your model to look like. Decide what materials you will need and how you will build it.

4. Build and Improve Your Model

- Create your model using your plan. Add labels, colors, shapes, textures, or other artistic details. Make changes as you work.

5. Reflect on your work

- Think about what you learned, what worked, what you would change, and if you have any new ideas.

6. Create Your Display Board

- Use pictures, drawings, labels, and short explanations to tell the story of your project.

7. Practice Sharing Your Project

- Be ready to tell the judges: What your model shows, why you chose your model, something you learned, how you made the model, and something you changed or would do differently.

Tri-Fold Board Expectations:

Display boards can be a maximum 36" x 48"
tri-fold board and must stand on its own

Maker Division - Model

Preschool Display Board

Why My Model Matters	(Title) (Project Story)	Reflection
Ideas & Planning	My Model (Show pictures, drawings, and the final model with labels)	What did I learn? What would I do differently?

Engineering Notebook Expectations:

- Research notes
- Sketches from planning
- Material lists
- Procedures for building
- Reflection

Preschool Engineering Notebook should be a combination of adult and student writing and drawing.



2026-2027 STEAM Fairs
Maker Division - Model Project Description & Rubric
Preschool

Student Names:		Grade:		Sequence #:	
Teacher's Name:		Project Title:			
Category	Exceeds Expectations	Meets Expectations	Approaching	Beginning	
Title & Story (10)	10 Has a creative title and tells a clear story about the model	8-9 Has a clear title and simple story about the model	5-7 Has a title but story is hard to understand	0-4 No title or story	
Why My Model Matters (10)	10 Clearly explains why the model is important and why they chose it	8-9 Explains why the model is important	5-7 Gives a simple reason why they made it	0-4 No explanation given	
Ideas & Planning (10)	10 Includes several accurate facts, key words, and discoveries; shows strong understanding	8-9 Includes some accurate facts and key words	5-7 Includes few facts; some may be unclear or incomplete	0-4 Little or no research provided	
Engineering Notebook (10)	10 Notebook has clear drawings, notes, or teacher-dictated words showing ideas and changes	8-9 Notebook has some drawings or notes	5-7 Notebook has very few drawings/notes	0-4 Notebook is missing or almost empty	
Building the Model (20)	20 Model is neat, complete, and labeled; shows effort and care	15-19 Model is mostly neat and complete	10-14 Model is incomplete, messy, or missing labels	0-9 Model not built or missing most parts	
Art & Creativity (15)	15 Uses art (colors, shapes, textures) in a very creative way; model looks expressive	11-14 Uses some colors, shapes, or textures to make the model creative	7-10 Shows a little artistic effort	0-6 Shows no artistic effort	
Sharing About My Model (15)	15 Explains the model clearly with details; uses drawings, words, or labels	11-14 Explains the model with some details	7-10 Explains a little about the model	0-6 Cannot explain the model	
Reflection (10)	10 Shares what was learned; explains what worked and what could change next time	8-9 Shares something learned about the model	5-7 Shares a little about the model	0-4 Does not share what was learned	

****Students/Teachers are to complete the top portion of this form and make sure it is attached to the STEAM Fair project for judges to reference, all scores are entered through the shared digital scoring form.****