

# Choosing the Best Science Project for Me

The key is to find an experiment/topic that you are passionate about! A great science project does NOT have to be a huge task, it can be simple, straight forward, and CONTROLLED.

- First list 5 things you are interested in or problem(s) that you would like to fix/make easier
  - Example: Music, Football, Shopping, Animals, A Community Problem
- Pick **one** of your 5 interests and ask yourself 5 questions about it. Make sure you're writing questions you'd really like to answer.
  - If I picked Football as my favorite topic, an example of a question I might like to answer could be: Does the type of cleat affect an athlete's ability to run \_\_\_\_\_ meters?
- Decide which of your 5 questions you'd like to answer the most. Make sure it is a question you can actually answer and have resources to perform.
- After choosing your main question, figure out how you are going to answer it.
  - **\*\*Make sure you only have 1 variable** that you are testing, and that the rest of the experiment is as controlled as possible.
  - Remember an experiment has a variable that you are manipulating or changing in some way, it is NOT simply a demonstration of something.
- After deciding what question you'd like to ask and how you plan to answer your question, create a good hypothesis! A hypothesis is simply **an educated guess** about what you think will happen AND a **reason**, based on research you have done.
  - Your hypothesis should be a statement, not a question
- Repetition
  - Repeat your experiment a few times (3-4 times) so you have multiple measurements to create an average -- the repetition also removes any random things that only occurred one time.
- Other tips:
  - Avoid using words such as bigger, smaller, longer, etc., use measurements to create comparisons.
  - Have fun! The more you enjoy the question or problem you are trying to solve the more involved you will want to be with your project. It will become a FUN experience that you learn from and will always remember.