In preparation for your big day, you will need the following:

1. **BOARD:** You will need to purchase a board that is approximately 3 ft x 4 ft. It should include all of the following aspects of the scientific method:
   - Question
   - Variables (independent, dependent, and controlled)
   - Hypothesis
   - Materials
   - Procedures
   - Data (graphs and charts should be included)
   - Results (photographs &/or apparatus should be displayed)
   - Conclusion (must tie in to your hypothesis)
   - Future Considerations
   - Bibliography (at least 5 NEED to be included in MLA format)

Next, have a responsible adult read over (AND EDIT!!!) all of the sections before they are placed on your board. *If they are already on a board, and there are errors you will need to peel of the info and reapply!*
Please have the person who edited your project sign on the next page:

Print Name ___________________________________ Signature __________________________________

Relationship to student _____________________________ Date ____________________

II. **LOG BOOK:** Remember all log entries must be completed in a composition (marble) notebook. You should also have a responsible person review them.

Please have the person who edited your log book sign here:

Print Name _____________________________________ Signature _________________________________

Relationship to student _____________________________ Date ______________________

III. **RESEARCH PAPER:** *This is optional but many judges look for this 😊*

The purpose of your research paper\(^1\) is to give the reader information to help understand why your experiment turned out the way it did. The research paper should include:

- The history of similar experiments or inventions
- Definitions of all important words and concepts that describe your experiment
- Answers to all your background research plan questions
- Mathematical formulas, if any, that you will need to describe the results of your experiment

For every fact or picture in your research paper you should follow it with a citation telling the reader where you found the information. A citation is just the name of the author and the date of the publication placed in parentheses like this: (Author, date). This is called a reference citation when using APA format and parenthetical reference when using the MLA format. Its purpose is to document a source briefly, clearly, and accurately.

If you copy text from one of your sources, then place it in quotation marks in addition to following it with a citation. Be sure you understand and avoid plagiarism! Do not copy another person's work and call it your own. Always give credit where credit is due!

More about this on the next 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Please have the person who reviewed/edited your research paper sign here:

Print Name ________________________________ Signature ______________________________________

Relationship to student _____________________________ Date _____________________

IV. **ABSTRACT:** *Will be submitted to me so that I can make several copies to display with your project.*

An abstract is a 1-3 paragraph summary of your experiment and its outcome. It will need to be typed up and left with your presentation to be given to the judges, as they come over to your station. A great abstract includes all of the same components as your original research plan: question, variables (independent, dependent, and controlled), hypothesis, procedures, analysis of data, and results/conclusion (must tie in to your hypothesis)

V. **PRESENTATION:** *This is where it all your hard work has led you!*

Now it is time to prepare for your oral presentation. You will need to practice the delivery of your presentation several times and for at least 3 different people. Remember, you should also be prepared to answer questions about your project. Lastly, ask everyone who heard your presentation to give you feedback in the form of suggestions or comments.

Please have the people who listened to your presentation sign here:

**Audience member #1**

Print Name ________________________________ Signature ______________________________________

Relationship to student _____________________________ Date _____________________

Please offer your suggestions/comments here (and share them with the student)!

Thank You ☺

**Audience member #2**
Helpful Links:

The official website for the Carver Science Fair is: [carversciencefair.org](http://carversciencefair.org)

This website can be really helpful for writing bibliographies! It can help you convert websites into the proper formatting: [www.easybib.com](http://www.easybib.com)

This website can be really helpful for creating charts and graphs: [http://www.chartgo.com/](http://www.chartgo.com/)

CONGRATULATIONS FOR GETTING THIS FAR! GOOD LUCK, I KNOW YOU WILL DO WELL!