

Science Fair Topic Selection Rubric

This rubric covers the following 6th Grade Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs):

1. Use Science Process and Thinking Skills
 - g. Formulate simple research questions.

2. Manifest Scientific Attitudes and Interests
 - a. Demonstrate a sense of curiosity about nature.
 - c. Pose science questions about objects, events, and processes.

6. Understand the Nature of Science
 - a. Science is a way of knowing that is used by many people not just scientists.

CATEGORY	4	3	2	1
Level of Challenge	Level of challenge is one or more grade above student's grade	Level of challenge is at student's grade.	Level of challenge is one grade level below student's grade.	Level of challenge is two or more grades below student's grade.

Standard Used to Determine Level of Challenge

Sciencebuddies.org is an outstanding site for science fair projects. They rate each project on a [difficulty](#) scale of 1-10, 1 being easy and 10 being extremely difficult. After reviewing the proposed activity, using the Sciencebuddies.org [difficulty level](#), the project will be assigned a proficiency level (1-4). Levels will be assigned as follows:

- ★ Sciencebuddies.org difficulty scale (equivalent) - 7 or above: Level 4
- ★ Sciencebuddies.org difficulty scale (equivalent) - 4-6: Level 3
- ★ Sciencebuddies.org difficulty scale (equivalent) - 3: Level 2
- ★ Sciencebuddies.org difficulty scale (equivalent) - 2 or below: Level 1

The maximum proficiency level a student may receive is equal to the proficiency level of their project. If a student selects a project at proficiency level 4, they may receive up to a level 4; if a student selects a project at proficiency level 2, they may not receive a proficiency level higher than 2. This is based on the work that will be required to complete the science fair project successfully.