



STANSW Young Scientist Awards



Criteria for Judging a Scientific Investigation, Years 3-6

Your response will be judged that it contains clear, consistent and convincing evidence of your ability to conduct a scientific investigation to communicate your work appropriately.

The judges will look for clear, consistent and convincing evidence that you:

- identified a problem that can be tested scientifically
- were creative in the selection of the problem or its solution
- conducted a scientific investigation using the principles of fair testing
- selected suitable technology and materials for testing
- made predictions and observations
- recorded appropriate data
- explained the science content related to your investigation
- discussed the results and how they contributed to your conclusion, and
- communicated your investigation using appropriate language.

SCORING RUBRIC: Years 3-6

Level	Description
4	The student has completed a well planned , scientific investigation, has shown an innovative or creative approach and an understanding of the science content relevant to the investigation. There is: careful selection of materials and equipment, appropriate predicted outcomes , efficient data collection techniques showing simple understanding of fair testing, correct recording (including use of units) and analysis of data. The student has come to a valid conclusion and suggested plausible explanations and the communication takes decisive account of purpose and audience.
3	The student has completed a scientific investigation, has an understanding of the science content related to the investigation and may show innovative or creative features. There is: selection of materials and equipment, adequate data collection techniques and the use of fair testing. Data has been recorded and the student has come to a conclusion and suggested possible explanations. Communication takes account of purpose and audience.
2	The investigation has a scientific context , some understanding of the science content related to the investigation and some innovative or creative features may be shown. It takes little consideration of the following: selection of materials and equipment , adequate data collection techniques and the use of fair testing . Data has been recorded and possible explanations of the findings may have been suggested. Communication takes some account of the audience.
1	The student may have completed an investigation and the selection of materials and equipment is either inadequate or inappropriate , the data collection techniques are confused . The explanations are unrelated to science content. Language may be inappropriate to purpose and audience.

Report to senior judge any project not complying with safety and animal welfare guidelines