



Regional Science Fair Quick Rules Reminder

The following rules are based on the ISEF Regulations, but have been simplified for elementary use. The Indian River Regional Science & Engineering Fair (IRRSEF) does enforce safe research for all participants. ISEF regulations will be the final authority on questions regarding health and safety of participants.

DISPLAY REGULATIONS

- **NO** organisms, living or dead, including plants, animals, or food products are to be displayed. This does not include the materials (wood and paper) of which the project is constructed.
- Pictures of the experimenter's face **ONLY** may be visible. All other faces and product name brands must be covered.
- No props, displays, or models are allowed.
- If deemed unsafe or unnecessary by consensus of the IRRSEF Display and Safety Committee, the item or items must be removed.

BRAND TESTING

Testing one product brand against another is not permitted. However, students may test ingredients of different brands to look for differences in product performance.

HUMAN SUBJECTS

- All projects involving human subjects **must be reviewed** and approved by the IRRSEF Elementary District Coordinator before experimentation begins.
- Parental consent (signed form 2B) **must** be obtained for all human subjects used in research projects **before** experimentation begins.

NONHUMAN VERTEBRATE ANIMALS

The use of wild animals will not be permitted for science projects at the Elementary School level, including behavioral and observational studies.

- Research plan **must be reviewed** and approved by the IRRSEF Elementary District Coordinator before experimentation begins.
- All animals **must** be legally acquired from reputable animal breeders or dealers. Pet owners must sign Form 4 giving their consent for their animals to be used in the experiment.
- Proper animal care must be provided daily, including weekends, holidays and vacations. It is highly recommended that the daily care routine be documented in the student's log book.
- Experimental procedures that cause unnecessary pain or discomfort are prohibited.
- Experiments designed to kill vertebrate animals are not permitted.
- Students may not perform euthanasia.

POTENTIALLY HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES, DEVICES OR RESEARCH PROCEDURES -

Research involving potentially hazardous chemicals, devices (e.g. catapults or trebuchets) or other questionable experimentation techniques (e.g. scuba diving, boating, burning) **must be reviewed** and approved by the IRRSEF Elementary District Coordinator **before experimentation begins**. These experiments will also need Form 3 to be signed by a parent/guardian stating the student will be directly supervised by a designated responsible adult at all times.

PROHIBITED PROJECTS FOR ELEMENTARY

- Alcohol, acid rain, insecticides, pesticides, herbicides, radioactive materials, carcinogens, and heavy metal toxicity studies are **prohibited**.
- Research involving **Human and Animal Tissue or Fluids** (e.g., human teeth, human blood or other body fluids including saliva and urine) is **prohibited**.
- **Microbiology** - Microorganisms (bacteria, molds, etc.) collected, isolated, and/or cultured from any environment are considered to be potentially pathogenic (see ISEF rules). Consequently, they are not appropriate for science projects at the Elementary School level and are **prohibited**.
- Due to students' safety concerns and liability issues, weapons of any kind (including, but not limited to, bow and arrows, knives, bb guns, paintball guns, etc.) are **prohibited**.