

SIM Science & Engineering Fair

PROJECT ABSTRACT EXAMPLES

Your abstract is important. The judges will receive your abstract before they come to interview you so they can preview your work. It will help your judges to better understand your work and prepare for your interview if you follow these samples or use similar formats.

Example #1:

What Makes Good Electrical Conductors?

Grades 4-5

Objectives/Goals: The objective of my project is to determine which materials make the best electrical conductors.

Methods and Materials: I used wood, plastic, copper, steel, tin and glass, as my materials to be tested. I also used a volt/ohms meter and the test probes to make my measurements.

Results: The meter I used showed the metals to all be excellent conductors and that the plastic and wood did not conduct an electrical current.

Conclusions: My conclusion is that the metals I tested are excellent conductors of electrical current and that neither wood nor plastic conducts electricity.

Example #2:

The Effect of Surface Finish on Rocket Drag

Grades 6-12

Objectives/Goals: My project was to determine if surface finish has an effect on the drag of a model rocket. I believe that a model with a smooth surface will have lower drag and will reach higher altitudes.

Methods and Materials: Five model rockets with identical size and shape, but different surface preparations, were conducted. One rocket was left with an unfinished surface, three had surfaces finished to various degrees of smoothness and the fifth rocket had its surface sealed, primed, sanded to 600 grit, painted and covered with clear gloss. The rockets were ballasted to weigh the same and flown 10 times each with B5-4 motors.

Results: The rocket with the clear gloss finish consistently reached the highest altitudes of all 5 rockets, while the unfinished rocket consistently reached the lowest altitude.

Conclusions: My conclusion is that surface finish has an important role in model rocket drag.