**Outline for the Background Research Report**

**For the 2021 Virtual Fair you only need Paragraph 1 and 2**

I. Introduction

A. Introduce your topic by providing some interesting information that relates to your topic. Not required but a catchy introduction draws readers into your report.

B. Explain how the topic is important to everyday life.

C. State the purpose of the study.

D. State your hypothesis.

II. Science Concepts

A. The science concept that is related to your science project.

B. Define the concept.

C. Provide a minimum of 1 supporting details that explain, elaborate, or is an example of

the science concept.

Supporting detail #1 1. State a concept that is related to your science project.

2. Define the concept.

3. Provide supporting details that explain, elaborate, or is an example of the science concept.

Not included in the 2021 Science Fair

III. Scientists who have studied the science concepts.

A. Identify a scientist who has studied the science concepts related to your project.

B. State what, where and when the scientist studied this concept.

C. State what the scientist did and what was learned.

IV. Variable

A. State the independent variable and provide supporting details.

B. State the dependent variable and provide supporting details.

C. State the control variable and provide supporting details.

V. Prediction

A. State the prediction in the form of the hypothesis.

B. State why the hypothesis is reasonable based on your research; related to science concepts.

VI. Impact on society

A. Why is it important to study this topic; how is it useful to people.

B. What are the current trends for this topic.

C. What is expected in the future for this topic

VII. Conclusion

A. This is a conclusion of your paper NOT YOUR SCIENCE EXPERIMENT.

B. Restate the purpose of your study.

C. Review the science concepts of your paper.

D. End with a statement of strong feeling, prediction for the future, or probing question that is an

extension of study.

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**Plagarism** is defined as, the practice of taking someone else's work or ideas and passing them off as one's own.

You may quote short phrases. You may paraphrase what others have stated. But you must give the person you are using the information from credit.

How do you cite a source?

**MLA: Book**

1. Write the author's last name, first name and middle name or initial.
2. Write the name of the article or chapter from your source in [quotation marks](https://www.thoughtco.com/quotation-marks-inverted-commas-1691713).
3. Write the title of the book or source.
4. Write the place where your source was published (city) followed by a colon.
5. Write the publisher name, date and volume followed by a [colon](https://www.thoughtco.com/what-is-colon-punctuation-1689868) and the page numbers.
6. Write the publication medium.

Here is an example for a book -- Smith, John B. "Science Fair Fun." Experiment Time. New York: Sterling Pub. Co., 1990. Vol. 2:10-25. Print.

**MLA: Magazine**

1. Write the author's last name, first name.
2. Write the title of the article in quotation marks.
3. Write the title of the magazine in italics.
4. Write the publication date followed by a colon and the page numbers.
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Here is an example for a magazine or scientific journal -- Carter, M. "The Magnificent Ant." *Nature* 4 Feb. 2014:10-40. Print.

**MLA: Website**

1. Write the author's last name, first name.
2. Write the name of the article or page title in quotation marks.
3. Write the title of the Web site.
4. Write the name of the sponsoring institution or publisher (if any) followed by a comma.
5. Write the date published.
6. Write the publication medium.
7. Write the date the information was accessed.
8. (Optional) Write the URL in angle brackets.

Here is an example for a Web site -- Bailey, Regina. "How to Write a Bibliography For a Science Fair Project." About Biology. 9 Mar. 2000. Web. 7 Jan. 2014. <http://biology.about.com/od/biologysciencefair/fl/How-to-Write-a-Bibliography-For-a-Science-Fair-Project.html