ABSTRACT WRITING TIPS

JUNIOR LEVEL (GRADES 6 – 8):
Junior abstracts should be between **100 - 250 words** and attempt to reach the senior level 250 word limit. These abstracts should be displayed with the project in order to inform judges and the public about the project. The junior level abstract is more a narrative of the project (compared to the elementary abstract) but still clearly and succinctly describes all project aspects.

Sample Abstract Template – Junior Level

Title: Name: School:
Purpose of project / experiment: • An introductory statement of the reason for investigating the topic of the project. • A statement of the problem or hypothesis being studied.
Summarize procedures, emphasizing the key points or steps: • A summarization of the key points and an overview of how the investigation was conducted. • Omit details about the materials used unless it greatly influenced the procedure or had to be developed to do the investigation. • An abstract should only include procedures done by the student. Work done by a mentor (such as surgical procedures) or work done prior to student involvement must not be included.
Detail succinctly observations/data/results: • This section should provide key results that lead directly to the conclusions you have drawn. • It should not give too many details about the results nor include charts or graphs.
State conclusions/applications.

Sample Written Abstract – Junior Level (from Science Buddies Website: http://www.sciencebuddies.org/science-fair-projects/project_sample_abstract.shtml)

AN ANALYSIS OF AA BATTERY LIFE UNDER DIFFERENT DEVICE DRAIN

"Advertisers are always touting more powerful and longer lasting batteries, but which batteries really do last longer, and is battery life impacted by the speed of the current drain? This projects looks at which AA battery maintains its voltage for the longest period of time in low, medium, and high current drain devices. The batteries were tested in a CD player (low drain device), a flashlight (medium drain device), and a camera flash (high drain device) by measuring the battery voltage (dependent variable) at different time intervals (independent variable) for each of the battery types in each of the devices. My hypothesis was that Energizer would last the longest in all of the devices tested. The experimental results supported my hypothesis by showing that the Energizer performs with increasing superiority, the higher the current drain of the device.

The experiment also showed that the heavy-duty non-alkaline batteries do not maintain their voltage as long as either alkaline battery at any level of current drain."