

Possible questions to ask during the science fair interview:

- How did you come up with the idea for this project?
- What did you learn from your background search?
- How long did it take you to build the apparatus?
- How did you build the apparatus?
- How much time (many days) did it take to run the experiments (grow the plants) (collect each data point)?
- How many times did you run the experiment with each configuration?
- How many experiment runs are represented by each data point on the chart?
- Did you take all data (run the experiment) under the same conditions, e.g., at the same temperature (time of day) (lighting conditions)?
- How does your apparatus (equipment) (instrument) work?
- What do you mean by (terminology or jargon used by the student)?
- Do you think there is an application in industry for this knowledge (technique)?
- Were there any books that helped you do your analysis (build your apparatus)?
- When did you start this project? or, How much of the work did you do this year? (some students bring last year's winning project back, with only a few enhancements)
- What is the next experiment to do in continuing this study?
- Are there any areas that we not have covered which you feel are important?
- Do you have any questions for me?

(Note: these are only suggestions to keep the dialog going. You may find other questions to be more useful in specific interviews.)

Source: How to be a Good Science Fair Judge,
<http://www.usc.edu/CSSF/Judges/GoodJudge.html>

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