

Science Activity Template

1) Title: Create an appropriate title that can catch the student's attention. Below the title, include the appropriate grade level of the activity and the approximate time required to complete the activity.

2) TEKS: Write down which of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) are going to be covered in the demonstration and exploration of the activity.

3) Introduction: In this part of the handout, introduce your activity by including an attention getter. This may be a recent science event that links to the main idea of your demonstration, a scenario that makes the student begin the critical thinking process, or a series of questions about how a particular technology or natural event works. Also include the goal or purpose of performing this experiment.

4) Things you need (Materials): When designing your activity, keep in mind that the materials used in your project should be easily obtained by students and their families. Household items bought in a discount store are an ideal goal. In this section, state clearly the amounts of all needed materials. For example: 20 meter of string or 5 pieces of paper.

5) What to Do (Procedure): In this section, you will be explaining how to setup and perform the activity. Use simple step by step instructions. What do you need first? What will students need to do? Will you be recording any results and how are you going to keep track of them? If you are going to be creating mixtures or using household chemicals, please explain if a special cleaning procedure is required. For instance, if your are using sand to explain the layers of soil, don't dispose of it in a sink because it will cause the pipes to clog. Also, if the activity uses dangerous materials, such as matches or pointy objects, write down any safety precautions that will be required

6) Questions to Think About: In order to draw up some conclusions or possible explanations, create a series of questions that will describe what happened in the experiment, why did it took place, or how can changing one variable affect the final outcome. The point of this section is to engage the learner in seeking a possible explanation from their observations and results.

7) What is Going On? In this section, provide an understandable explanation of the results that were present in your experiment. You may use textbooks, WebPages, or other valid sources of information. Make sure that the explanations are in the appropriate reading level. You may want match the content learned to the TEKS that were stated at the beginning of your activity.

8) Where Does this Happen in Real Life? Students should have opportunities to connect the content learned to real world events. This will provide the participants with specific examples of where science takes place, in effect, moving from theory to application. You may want to describe where these concepts take place (In the park, in your car, at home) and how they occur.

9) Extension: What simple variations can you create to build-on the concept that you introduced in your experiment? You may try to link it to link your main idea to other subjects like math, social science or technology.