



BIG BANG SUCCESS SHEET

Who can enter?

Third- through eighth-grade students attending a Catholic school in the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. **Students will compete in one of two age groups: grades 3-5 or 6-8.** Each school can send an unlimited number of entrants. Each student entry must have a parent or guardian assist with the registration.

How to enter

Go to the registration portal at <https://www.catholicstem.org/bigbang>. Follow the instructions to submit your experiment.

Partners

Groups of two students are allowed.

Who can help?

It is expected that these C-STEM competition projects are primarily the work of the student. They may ask parents, teachers, siblings and friends for help, but the student should be the one in charge at all stages of the project.

When can I register?

The registration window for video submission of student projects will be **February 1 – February 28, 2021.**

How do I register?

Talk to your teacher! They can help you with preparing to register for the competition. All registrations will be done through an online process. You will be asked to submit information about your project in the online portal and to submit a video (no longer than 3 minutes) presenting your project. The parent will need to assist the student in registering online.

For more information and to enter, visit

<https://www.catholicstem.org/bigbang>

Expectations

What kind of projects can I do?

Projects are accepted from all types of science, technology, engineering or math. Projects that involve human responses such as “Can people tell the difference between regular and low-fat versions of a product?” are also acceptable, though it is often difficult to obtain a significant enough sample size to do such projects well.

What kind of projects are not allowed?

Projects that involve the use of hazardous substances or devices will not be allowed. (For example prescription drugs, DEA-controlled substances or illegal drugs, alcohol, tobacco, firearms, or explosives.) Projects involving experimentation on non-human vertebrate animals or potentially hazardous biological agents will not be allowed. Projects involving common, low-risk biological agents such as bread mold can be acceptable, though the samples should not be brought with to the science fair (use pictures instead).

What do I need to prepare for the C-STEM Fair?

***Review the [Judging Rubrics](#) before you start!**

1) **Your display board.** It must include:

- The title, student(s) name, abstract, question/problem statement, hypothesis (scientific method project only), procedure, data, conclusions, and bibliography.
- Abstract: no more than half a page typed and included on the display board.
- Bibliography: must include at least three sources, including at least one source that is not a website. This should be displayed on the display board, usually in the bottom right-hand corner. A specific format for the bibliography (i.e. APA or MLA) is not required. The information should be formatted in a way that is age-appropriate at your school.
- The display board should be neat, and parts can be neatly handwritten.

2) Your notebook. Ideally, entries should be dated and include a complete idea. Entries should be made throughout the project, not just while collecting data.

Please note: Electricity will not be provided at the finals, so plan your project accordingly. Models or prototypes of the main idea are encouraged, but not required.

What do I need to wear for the C-STEM Fair project submission?

Please wear your school uniform. If your school does not have a uniform, please wear your Sunday best.

What about other science fairs?

Some schools already hold their own science fairs and participate in the Twin Cities or Mankato science fairs. The Big Bang Catholic STEM Fair is not affiliated with these fairs. Schools are welcome to continue to participate in other fairs as well as the Big Bang Catholic STEM Fair.

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