

Excerpt from *Science Day Standards* (<http://ohiosci.org/sds.htm>)

Abstract

Abstracts of 250 or fewer words are required and must be submitted with applications for both District and State Science Days. The abstract must contain a heading that includes a project title and name(s) of the author(s). The heading does not contribute to the word count.

The purpose of an abstract is to provide a summary of the project that will inform interested individuals of the contents. The wording must be written in a manner that any scientifically minded individual, who may not be familiar with the topic, can quickly understand the project's important points.

Summarize in a few sentences:

- Background information necessary to understand the project and its importance
- The problem that was investigated and the hypothesis or technological design statement
- Outline of the materials and methods used in the actual experimentation
- Summary of the results obtained from experimentation
- The conclusions drawn from results
- The importance or potential applications that the research offers

Do not be concerned with including all of the details in the abstract. The key point to remember when writing an abstract is to keep the wording brief and concise. Use complete sentences. Avoid personal pronouns like "I" and "My." Abstracts should provide only information essential to understand the project's basic points and importance. Omit needless words, especially adjectives and adverbs that have no statistical reference or validity.

Students attending District 14 Science Day should staple a copy of their Abstract to the back of their District 14 Registration. A copy should also be included on the student's backboard and in their written report. Students may wish to make copies to hand to judges.