**Science Fair Project 2012**

***Phase II: Conducting Background Research***

\*FOR THIS PHASE OF THE PROJECT YOU WILL BE WORKING INDIVIDUALLY TO CONDUCT YOUR OWN RESEARCH \*

In this phase of the project you will be conducting the background research that will set the foundation for your experiment.

This phase will be conducted in two stages in itself:

1. Gathering background information
2. Summarizing that information.

Part A: Gathering Background Information

In this stage you will use multiple resources to develop your background knowledge on the underlying concepts of your research project.

For Part A, you will do the following:

1. Come up with **3-5**  questions about your topic.
* *Ex: If your experimental/engineering question is “What material(s) would make the best artificial skin?” you could ask the following 3 questions:*
	+ *What is skin made of?*
	+ *What are the functions of skin?*
	+ *Of what types of material is prosthetic skin made?*
1. Gather research/information in answer to the three sub-questions using a variety of sources. For this part, you WILL:
	1. Need to find **at least THREE** *reliable* resources for **EACH** question.
	2. Need to take notes, ***synthesizing*** the research/information you find in answer to the questions.
		* ***For each question you should have a at least ONE page of typed notes.*** (3 pages in total)
			+ **Notes should be 1 page, double spaced, bulleted list, Arial font, size 10**
		* I **DO NOT** want to see any copy and pasted information.
		* YOUR NOTES MUST BE IN YOUR **OWN** **WORDS**!

Part B: Summarizing Background Research into a Research Report

In this stage, you will **summarize and explain your findings**.

For **each sub-question or page of notes**, you will, **write one paragraph** (at least 10 sentences), **summarizing and explaining** what the research said.

**REMEMBER YOU ARE :**

* Writing a one-paragraph summary for **EACH** sub-question you researched. (i.e. you should have a **MINIMUM of 3 paragraphs for a minimum of 3 questions to be researched).** Each paragraph is at least 10 sentences long.
* **SUMMARIZING and EXPLAINING** the researchin **YOUR** **OWN WORDS. *\*****I do not want to see you just copy information word-for-word\**
* **Typing your paragraphs**; (double spaced, size 12 font; Times New Roman or similar font type).
* **Working individually**. That is, you are responsible for doing your own research and taking your OWN notes.

**Due Dates**

\**Due dates are subject to change\**

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| *Assignment* | *Date Due* |
| * 3-5 research questions about topic
 | **January 25, 2013** |
| * Research notes
 | **February 6th, 2013** |
| * Paragraph Summaries
 | **February 12th, 2013** |