

Sample Judges' Questions

BECAUSE WE ALWAYS HAVE NEW JUDGES, WE PUT TOGETHER SOME GENERAL SUGGESTIONS AND SAMPLE QUESTIONS THAT MIGHT GIVE YOU SOME IDEAS IN CASE YOU DRAW A BLANK.

GENERAL SUGGESTIONS:

If it is a group entry make sure that each student in the group answers at least on question. You will have students who tend to answer most of the questions. Make a special effort to engage the shy students.

Please remember to introduce yourself to the students. This gives them time to quell some of the nervousness they may feel.

Make sure you submit only the colored judging sheet for each entry and keep it attached to the bibliography. Make sure that all judges confer and agree upon comments that go on the colored judging sheet. We have provided white judging sheets for you to use during the judging process to take notes. Throw these white sheets away when you have finished judging.

Don't confront the students if you don't agree with the information they give. Make your comments on the judging sheet.

Be honest but tactful when commenting on their project.

SAMPLE QUESTIONS:

What was the most interesting thing that you learned while researching?

What made you choose this topic?

What institutions did you visit to gather your information?

What other material do you think you will look at to further your project if you advance to state?

What was the most difficult aspect of your research?

How does your topic relate to the NHD theme?

How does your topic relate to what was going on nationally (or regionally if the topic is a national theme) at the time?

What was your most valuable resource?

Ask the student a specific question based on the execution of their project. For example, I see you have included a video clip from the National Archives in your documentary, how did you find the clip and what made you include it in your documentary? This allows the students to explain their thought processes and their role in the project.

Briefly describe how you created your exhibit?

How did you divide the work among group members?