(modified from a rubric used by the Olathe East High School Science Department, Olathe, KS; which was modified from a rubric used by the Colorado Springs School district's science dept.) Standards: The levels at which students are expected to perform the task

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Score		Advanced (5)	Proficient (3)	Needs Improvement (1)
	Question			
		Question is narrowly focused and suggests how an answer might be investigated. It is answerable.	Question is answerable but not narrowly focused.	Question is too broad and not practically investigated.
	Identification of Variables	Correctly identifies specific, measurable independent and dependent variables.	Identifies variable being tested & variable being measured.	Variables and constants significantly incomplete &/or inaccurate.
	Hypothesis	Hypothesis is testable and clearly stated in "If then" format. Specifically predicts relationship between dependent and independent variables.	Hypothesis is clearly stated. It predicts the influence of one variable on another.	<ul> <li>Hypothesis is poorly stated and doesn't directly mention the variables.</li> </ul>
	Materials	Complete, detailed list of materials (size, conc., quantity) presented in vertical list format.	Most materials are listed and appropriate.	Materials quite incomplete or inappropriate for experiment.
	Procedure	Accurately tests the hypothesis	Attempts to test hypothesis	• Does not address hypothesis.
		<ul> <li>Conducts or analyzes at least 3 trials.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Multiple trials attempted or need is recognized.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Single trial, poor understanding of use of multiple trials.</li> </ul>
		Procedure is in vertical list format, accurate, complete, easy- to-follow, and reproducible by another person. Includes diagrams to clarify procedures.	Step-by-step procedure, generally complete. Minor errors/ omissions make it difficult to follow or not always repeatable.	Procedure difficult to follow. Major omissions or errors.
		<ul> <li>Includes all appropriate safety concerns.</li> </ul>	Includes critical safety concerns.	Safety concerns trivial or inadequately addressed.
	Data Collection & Presentation	<ul> <li>Data table contains accurate, precise raw data &amp; summary data reported in correct SI units with descriptive title.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Data table with accurate data, most units labeled or implied. Minor errors. Title absent or trivial.</li> </ul>	• Data table inaccurate, confusing, and/or incomplete. Missing units.
		<ul> <li>Data summarized in well- organized, easy-to-read graph &amp;/or figures. Descriptive title, appropriate labeling, keys, etc.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Data displayed in well organized easy to read graph &amp;/or figures. Descriptive title, minor errors in use of units and labeling.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Graph/figures presented in a confusing and/or sloppy fashion.</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Data summarized in a clear, concise, logical manner.</li> <li>Patterns identified &amp; described, but no conclusions drawn.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Reasonable, but somewhat unclear summary of data.</li> <li>Patterns in data not clearly identified.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Summary is unclear and illogical. Patterns in data not identified.</li> </ul>
	Conclusion	<ul> <li>Scientifically valid, logical conclusion, well supported by the data collected. Clearly addresses problem and stated hypothesis</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Scientifically valid, logical conclusion, supported by data collected. Attempts to address problem and stated hypothesis</li> </ul>	Conclusion is incomplete or illogical. Does not address the problem and hypothesis.
		<ul> <li>Sources of error identified and explained. Appropriate recommendations made to eliminate errors</li> </ul>	Sources of error identified.	Weak/trivial attempt to identify sources of error.
		<ul> <li>Student generates specific questions for future study.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Student makes attempt to generate questions for future study.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Student makes incomplete or inappropriate attempt to extend or apply knowledge.</li> </ul>