

Rule of Thirds

This organizational concept can be used for **any** type of research project.

Divide any project into three parts (RAP):

- Research
- Action
- Presentation.

Using the RAP Rule of Thirds for a research project the student will take to local and potentially regional and/or state competition, the project timeline might look something like this:

RESEARCH

- **September - October**
 - ✓ Select topic
 - ✓ Find 3-5 (or more!) articles going from broad topic to actual experimentation.
 - ✓ The research should also get more selective (ex: dictionary to journal articles)

ACTION

- **November - January**
 - ✓ Write experimental design
 - ✓ Get SRC/IRB approval (check local/regional SRC/IRB deadlines)
 - ✓ Conduct experiment
- **January – February**
 - ✓ Analyze results
 - ✓ Create trifold presentation board
 - ✓ Develop 3-5 minute presentation for judging

PRESENTATION

- **February-March-April**
 - ✓ Local/School competition
 - ✓ Regional competition (if project qualifies from local)
 - ✓ State competition (if qualifies from regional)