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)