



## JUDGING CRITERIA

### 1. ORIGINALITY: 35 POINTS

Project represents original, creative thought; is a unique solution.

### 2. INVENTING PROCESS: 30 POINTS

Model, presentation, and journal demonstrate how student originated idea and was a main contributor to the project (5 points). Journal documents student initiative and the inventing process, from brainstorming (10 Points), through prototyping (5 points), to final project. **Testing, redesigning, and improving your own invention is part of the process (10 points)**

### 3. ACCOMPLISHES A STATED GOAL, PROBLEM OR OBJECTIVE: 5 POINTS

Project accomplishes goal, problem or objective as stated in Inventor's Journal and on display

### 4. VISUAL PRESENTATION: 15 POINTS

Project and display are eye-catching, attractive and neatly done (7pts.) Display includes name of invention, goal, how it works, diagram (8 pts.)

### 5. RESEARCH AND DOCUMENTATION: 15 POINTS

Journal and/or display documents research related to topic AND existence of similar inventions. (12 points):

- TOPIC research (5 points): Summarize new learning about your general topic.
- PRODUCT research (7 points): Does your invention already exist? How is your idea better or different than existing products? Site sources.
- Documents, in journal, all items used including recycled and borrowed items, and provides list of expenses showing evidence of staying under **\$25** in NEWLY-PURCHASED materials. No receipts needed. Documents, in journal, outside assistance from adults; who helped them and in what ways they helped. (3pts.)  
NOTE: Students are expected to do all work themselves, except in issues of safety. Parent guidance is best done by asking questions—not doing it for the child. Plagiarism is not acceptable.

\* BONUS: Extra consideration will be given to projects that analyze the potential effects of their invention on the world, including but not limited to the environment and society. Include consequences, impact, and benefits (both positive and negative effects). What new technology, if any, still needs to be invented before your idea can become a reality? Explain market potential of your invention. (3 pts.)

NOTE: HIGH SCHOOL ENTRIES (Grades 9-12): Also include a CAD drawing of your invention and a PowerPoint or similar media presenting your invention.