



How to Transform Science Day Projects into *Believe in Ohio* Plans



Why participate in both?



Science day projects increase your interest and understanding of science, provide career exploration opportunities, and can recognize your achievements in the sciences.

Believe in Ohio plans emphasize the importance of STEM, and the need to develop critical thinking, problem-solving skills, and an entrepreneurial mindset.

What are key requirements?

Science Day projects integrate into one functional activity – the skills and arts that are usually taught separately – resulting in a cross-discipline demonstration in skills like writing, math, graphic arts, scientific methodology and public speaking.

Believe in Ohio plans introduces college and workplace experiences – using concepts of entrepreneurship, developing problem solving, critical thinking, and collaboration skills in development of a commercialization or business plan.

What's different?

Both begin with the identification of a problem or need.

Science Day projects test a hypothesis, complete research, test, collect and analyze data to state a conclusion.

Believe in Ohio plans develop a written “science & technology proof of concept” with both a persuasive science and technology assessment and a plan for the concept’s likely commercial feasibility and viability.



Component Comparison:

Believe in Ohio™

Components of Science Research Projects vs. Believe in Ohio Projects	
Components of ALL Science Research Projects	Components of Believe in Ohio Projects
An Identified Problem and a Hypothesis or Engineering Design Statement	Milepost 1: Describe the Problem or Market Opportunity
Research Plan and Project Data Book/Notebook	Milepost 2: Describe the Proposed Solution to the Problem or Market Opportunity
Detailed Research Report including an Abstract	Milepost 3: Describe and Summarize the STEM Concepts and Principles that underly your Solution
Physical Display	Milepost 4: Describe the Target Customers and Intended Users
Oral Presentation	Milepost 5: Discuss your Direct and Indirect Competitors and their Products
	Milepost 6: Describe your Customer Value Proposition and how it provides a Competitive Advantage?
	Milepost 7: Describe your Expected Revenue Streams
	Milepost 8: Discuss your Expected Startup and Operating Costs
	Milepost 9A: Develop a Science and Technology Proof of Concept for a STEM Commercialization Plan
	Milepost 9B: Develop a Business and Financial Proof of Concept for a STEM Business Plan
	Milepost 10: Prepare an Executive Summary and Elevator Pitch of your entire Plan

Give me an example.

Many but not all Science Day projects can be used for Believe in Ohio plans.

Ex. 1: A project which compares methods/products to clean various surfaces and for which the student researcher has identified a testable variable, will probably meet the requirements to present the project at a Science Day. However, no new method or product has been introduced, so there is nothing new to commercialize.

Ex 2: If the project introduces a student researcher newly developed method/product for cleaning, compares these to existing methods/products, and if the new method/product proves to be an improvement in results, then there may be something to commercialize and the project could move from a Science Day project to a *Believe in Ohio* project.

Considerations for Believe in Ohio Plans

Not all *Believe in Ohio* projects follow the scientific method for a testable hypothesis. Many commercialization projects require the development of concepts, identifying target customers, users and competitors, and quantifying costs and expected revenues without testing a hypothesis, or developing and testing a prototype.

Short Term Benefits: Both Science Day and *Believe in Ohio* projects provide opportunities for student awards! Cash awards and scholarships are available at successive competition levels, but vary somewhat in each program.

Long Term Benefits: Both programs are recognized as positive additions to any application or résumé, and scholarships can help students meet their post-secondary educational goals!

Contact your Regional STEM Advocate or go to: www.ohiosci.org to learn more!

**Northeast and North Central
(purple) Professional Development
Coordinator**

Ms. Sheila Cubick
scubick@ohiosci.org

Laurie Godfrey
lgodfrey@ohiosci.org

**Southwest, Western, and
Northwest (orange)**

Mr. Nick Fortener
nfortener@ohiosci.org

Southeast (blue)

Mrs. Kasey Harris
kharris@ohiosci.org

Central (green)

Mrs. Angie McMurry
amcmurry@ohiosci.org

