

NMJAS PowerPoint Requirements

1. The first slide should contain identifying information including:
 - a. Name of student
 - b. School, Grade level
 - c. City, State
 - d. Teacher sponsor and/or mentor
 - e. Name of Presentation
2. Number each slide in the bottom right corner beginning with the first slide.
3. The presentation must be no longer than 10 minutes as it will be timed and you must finish before the time is up. Five minutes will be allowed for questions from judges. Only the judges are allowed to ask questions.
4. Do not use any audio, background music, or special effects. Do not use flashy slide transitions.
5. Embed any video, or other presentation developed through other software, into PowerPoint.
6. If using video, students must comply with the following ground rules:
 - a. The video component cannot make up more than one (1) minute of the presentation and must be directly relevant to the project.
 - b. No audio or background music is permitted other than sounds that are an integral part of the research. Recorded or mechanically produced narration is not permitted. Narration must come from the speaker.
 - c. Videos (and audio, if any) may be used only for those aspects of the presentation that cannot adequately be presented in a slide. Video material presented must be an integral part of the research and should not be a substitute for presentation of data. Videos must not be used for presentation of common procedures, illustrating Junior Academy of Science Rules of Competition, equipment or showing laboratory facilities. Videos should illustrate work that was done and should not be used for stimulation or aesthetic value.
7. If you use graphs, tables, and charts to explain your results, label the variables on both axes of a graph, and label the columns on tables. Give your graphs, tables and charts a title. These visual aids should be large enough to be seen easily, be clear, concise and uncluttered.

8. Save the PowerPoint presentation to an IBM-compatible thumb drive, and plug into available PC-based equipment with that thumb drive at the competition. (Not needed for virtual presentations in 2021.)
9. Bring your own media supplies including laser pointers to the competition. (Not needed for virtual presentations in 2021.)

NMJAS Hints for PowerPoint Presentations

1. The second slide should be an outline slide
Use main points of what you will talk about and follow that structure
2. Cover detailed information based on your outline in the content slides
Use as many slides as you need, as many as 1-2 per minute. Remember PowerPoint is more visual than verbal: “a picture is worth a thousand words”
3. Create a meaningful final slide. The audience will remember this slide.
- 4.. Do not use large blocks of text on slides. Use bullet points, not complete sentences. No more than 4-6 bullet points per page. Align text left or right, centered is harder to read. Consider showing one point at a time, using animation carefully.
5. Avoid clip art. Images should be good: not pixelated, out of focus, or too dark. Crop images to remove distractions.
6. Use a consistent background and layout for all slides, avoid really bright backgrounds, or cluttered layout.
7. Choose fonts carefully, use two at most, nothing cursive or ornamental. Use sans serif fonts, for legibility in text body. Arial, Helvetica or Calibri are also easy to read on screens. Use a minimum of 18 point, even 20 to 24 is better. Main points and titles are bigger than subpoints and content. Use high contrast dark letters on light background. Use color with care, to emphasize your talk. Avoid extremely bright colors, hot pink, neon orange, acid green. Do not combine red/green, yellow/purple, or blue/orange.
8. Use the resources on the New Mexico Junior Academy of Science pages of the NMAS website: <https://www.nmas.org/nmjas>