

The Near Space Explorer Submission Guide

All K-12 students who have built and analyzed the results of a near space experiment are eligible to submit articles to The Near Space Explorer. However, a teacher/mentor/adult leader must first review the article for grammar and accuracy prior to submission (this counts as peer review). This journal publishes articles that are short, no more than three pages long. Students should have fun creating and submitting their article and submissions that are duplicates of prior experiments are acceptable. A mission patch is also encouraged for each experiment and the patch artwork should be included within the article (adding art to STEM changes it into STEAM). The ultimate goal of writing articles for this journal is for students to have fun creating, analyzing, and writing about their near space experience. Send submissions to nearsys@gmail.com.

It is helpful if student submission follow the outline described below. This uniformity of article layout will help future near space explorers find the information they are searching for in this journal.

1. Title
2. Author(s) name
3. Abstract (paragraph description of the article and its findings)
4. Research performed prior to starting experiment
5. Description of experiment (what was used and how)
6. Expected results
7. Procedures used to analyze data
8. Example data
9. Graphs/charts
10. Conclusions
11. Suggested sources of error/corrections/future study
12. Keywords (useful search terms for this article)

Suggested Format for Graphs

The following requirements should give the best results for each graph. Please submit the chart as separate file from the article.

1. White background
2. Black lettering
3. Title
4. Axis labels
5. Axis units
6. Legend if more than one measurement is plotted in the same graph
7. Submitted as a jpeg

Suggested Format for Images

The following requirements should give the best results for each image. Please submit the image as separate file from the article.

1. A caption for each image
2. Use contrasting colors for arrows/circles pointing out items in the image
3. Submitted as a jpeg

The Near Space Explorer also welcomes submissions from adult leaders, in either formal or informal educational settings. It is helpful to others if an adult leader writes one or more paragraphs about their experience providing a near space experience for students. The setting can be formal or informal and examples of articles include those that focus on issues and they were overcome or some of the benefits of near space exploration. The Near Space Explorer is also happy to include images that authors would like to submit.