Science Fair Presentation Suggestions and Practice Questions

Practice Introducing yourself and your group members.
"Hi, I'm [your name]. These are my team members (introduce by name).

Practice Introducing your project. *(If you are in a group, share this responsibility.)*
"Our project is [title]." Or, "Our experiment is about…."

Talk about your project.

- Practice a 30 second overview.
    - Use the questions below to help shape your presentation. Don't answer everything below in your overview. Choose 3-4 points to start.
    - Let the visitors ask other questions.
    - Consider having a few questions to ask the visitors to help get them engaged.

- Consider watching "Shark Tank" to get an idea of how you might want to present your 'elevator pitch'.

Practice answering the following questions and use a few to help shape your opening presentation. Visitors will be provided with similar questions to ask about your project.

Rating Rubric:
1 (I needed more information) 2 3 4 5 (you told me everything I needed to know!)

Why did you choose this project/idea?
Listen for the presenter's level of interest in the project and how the project is unique. Is this something the already knew, or did they learn something when they completed the project?

What research did you do?
Describe any reading (or searching) that completed before the hypothesis was developed. A variation of this question is: Why do you think that would happen? (Referring to the prediction)

What was the hardest part about this project?
Listen for presenter to acknowledge which parts they thought were hard and how they solved the problems that arose.

How do you know your results are reliable?
Listen for the presenter to identify the need for a **control**, and identify the **independent variable**.

Why did you do the experiment more than once?
Listen for the presenter to demonstrate an understanding of the concept of variability and that the more an experiment is repeated, the more confidence we have in the accuracy of the results.

What would you do differently next time to improve the experiment?
Listen for the presenter to recognize that all projects have limitations and they could always have done better if they had more time, more resources, better equipment, etc.

Why are your findings interesting/ important/surprising?
Listen for the presenter to link his or her results to the "bigger picture" including who might be interested in the findings and why.

Who helped you?
This sounds like a trick question because you were supposed to do your own project – right? But no scientist works in isolation (and if they did we wouldn't know about them because they wouldn't have communicated their results!). Acknowledge anyone who gave you advice, equipment, or assistance with your project.