

A short film tells a complete story: beginning, middle, and end. Keep this tip in mind while planning, shooting and editing your video.

MSF Short Film rubric				
	4 point	3 points	2 points	1 point
Creativity	Topic of film is original and creative. Thought went into how to convey a science topic through an atypical genre. Film shows imagination.	Genre is creative but not carried consistently throughout film.	Genre is either commonly seen or portrayal of genre is inconsistent.	Film does not include original ideas, mimics a well known movie.
Content	The content includes a clear statement of purpose or theme and is creative, compelling and clearly written. A rich variety of supporting information in the video contributes to understanding the project's main idea. The project includes motivating questions and advanced organizers that provide the audience with a sense of the presentation's main idea. Events and messages are presented in a logical order.	Information is presented as a connected theme with accurate, current supporting information that contributes to understanding the project's main idea.	The content does not present a clearly stated theme, is vague, and some of the supporting information does not seem to fit the main idea or appears as a disconnected series of scenes with no unifying main idea.	The content lacks a central theme, clear point of view and logical sequence of information. Much of the supporting information in the video is irrelevant to the overall message. The viewer is unsure what the message is because there is little persuasive information and only one or two facts about the topic. Information is incomplete, out of date and/or incorrect.
Audio	Music and other audio enhances the mood, quality, and understanding of the film. Recorded sound is clear and at consistent volumes.	Music and other audio provides supportive background to the film, but does not necessarily enhance the overall theme of the film. Levels are somewhat inconsistent.	Music and other audio provides somewhat distracting background to the film.	Music and other audio are incongruent with theme of the film and detract from the overall quality.

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Editing	The video has a professional appearance and the video is edited in a way that is interesting. The film has good continuity.	The video is generally well-edited, but lacks some continuity and polish, and there are few or no awkward transitions between scenes.	The video appears to be minimally or sloppily edited, there are awkward transitions between scenes. The project seems segmented with poor continuity.	The project presents long video sequences with no obvious editing.
Titles & Text	Film includes titles and credits which are easy to understand and convey the theme. Any additional text (optional) adds something special to the film, and does not detract from overall film.	Film includes titles and credits which are easy to understand but deviate from the overall theme. Additional text (optional) lacks in a few places, but overall, does not greatly detract from the film.	Titles and/or credits are missing and/or text detracts from film, as they add little to nothing to the overall film. They may be too long or poorly written and lack a clear connection to the science story.	Text is poorly composed or filled with errors.
Graphics	Graphics enhance meaning. Film is high resolution, eye-catching.	Graphics reinforce content and demonstrate functionality. Film is high resolution.	Graphics sometimes enhance the presentation. Film is medium resolution.	Graphics are unrelated to the story. Film is low resolution.

Time limit: 3 minutes, any film over 3 minutes will be disqualified.

