

# SAMPLE – NOT FOR CONTEST ENTRY

## **Genes in Space** Detailed Scoring Criteria

### **Have you identified an interesting question?**

- Question is relevant to space exploration
- Question is creative and original
- Demonstrates accurate understanding of problem
- Describes problem and relevance to an appropriate level of detail
- Compellingly written and shows nuance

### **Have you stated a clear hypothesis?**

- Hypothesis and objectives are creative and original
- Hypothesis demonstrates accurate understanding of topic
- Hypothesis can be addressed with PCR
- Hypothesis is focused, can be tested by a single experiment
- Clearly justifies hypothesis and objectives

### **Does your hypothesis require the unique environment of the ISS?**

- Conditions required are only available on ISS
- Requires PCR to be conducted on ISS
- Clearly defines conditions required
- Justifies why conditions on Earth are insufficient

### **Does your experimental design make creative use of PCR in space?**

- Clear and detailed experimental plan (controls, system, samples, etc)
- PCR is properly used
- PCR is essential to experimental plan
- Discusses post-PCR analysis and possible outcomes