

Science Fair Guidelines



Purpose

- Science fairs provide opportunities for kids to creatively explore an area that interests them—to do science themselves! Thinking of a project, asking a question about an area or field of study, determining a way to test the answers to their questions, and creating a colorful display are all ways to get students excited about science and learning.



Participation Rules

1. Participation is open to all K-5th grade students
2. Projects can be done individually or with a small group
 - *Each student should register separately; note on the registration form if they are working with others*
3. Each student may enter only one project
4. The school/teachers assume no liability for loss or damage to exhibits
5. Parent/Scientist Volunteers will be circulating the event to speak with students and offer feedback about their projects
6. Science fair is non-competitive (projects will *not* be judged)
7. All participants will receive a certificate for their efforts
8. Projects will be completed at home, not in school
9. Indicate on your registration form if your display has special needs. Note that limited electrical outlets are available.



Registration: Please register by February 07, 2017

- Registration form available online on PTA website
<http://young.ipds.org/Subpage.aspx?id=1228>
- No pre-approval is necessary. You may start work immediately after registering!



Science Safety Rules

- Before starting your science project, take some time to think about possible safety issues associated with your project. Many experiments have safety risks which must be identified and addressed by parents before the experiment.
- To make the science fair a safe and fun experience for the families that will be attending the fair, Please follow these guidelines in picking your project:
 - Parent/guardian or responsible adult must carefully monitor any experiments that are performed as part of a project
 - NO open flames are permitted
 - NO dangerous combustible chemicals are permitted
 - NO experiments involving peanuts are permitted
 - NO live animals are permitted at the Science Fair
 - All electrical safety rules should be obeyed
 - No live human or animal experiments are allowed
 - Parents must sign a Consent form (*Please see Consent form at the bottom of the Registration form*)



Exhibit Guidelines

- At the science fair, you will be allocated space at a table for your exhibit.
 - Include your project title, name, and class on a tri-fold display board
 - Your display must fit within the allocated space of approx:
 - 36 inches wide and 18 inches deep
 - The display must be self-supporting
 - Other materials such as journal/logs, models, etc. may be displayed
 - Demonstrations performed at the fair need to be set up in a way that is safe and non-damaging
 - Items brought to the fair must adhere to school safety guidelines
 - Parents must supervise children at all times during the fair



Feedback on students' projects by Parent volunteers

- Students should be prepared to briefly discuss their project with parent/scientist volunteers and answer questions about it (formal presentation is not expected)
- Students will **NOT** be competing against each other and all participants will receive participation certificate and special recognition
- Volunteers will be offering additional feedback on projects with a view toward helping the students prepare for the competitive middle school science fairs
- Possible questions for students:
 - *What is the title of your project?*
 - *Tell me about your project.*
 - *What did you think would happen?*
 - *Did you repeat the experiment?*
 - *What is your conclusion?*

Sample Science Fair Display Board

