

Willow Glen Elementary Science Fair March 28–30, 2011

Information Packet for Student Science Projects

Included:
Important dates,
Proposal form,
Scientific Method planning sheet,
And project ideas.

Important Dates

Friday, February 18	All proposal forms must be turned into your teacher. <i>Your parent/guardian must sign this form.</i>
Thursday, March 18	Project display boards are given to students. Boards are supplied by the PTA, free.
Monday, March 28	8:00 – 10:00 am, students bring their projects to the cafeteria.
Tuesday, March 29	6:30 pm, The whole family is invited to a Family Fun Night and Science Fair at WGE.
March 28, after lunch March 29-30, all day	During the day classes can tour the Science Fair.
Wednesday, March 30	Students take home projects at the end of the school day.

Have Questions? Call Rita Heine 408-202-0461 or email at ritaluheine@aol.com or go to <http://www.wgepta.org/events/sciencefair/>

Name _____

Teacher _____

The Scientific Method

*Use this as a guide to organize the sections of your project.
Include each section on your display board.*

1. Project Title

Come up with a short title for your project.

2. Question

*What do you want to learn or show with your project? Keep your question simple.
Do some background research to better understand your topic.*

3. Hypothesis or Statement of Purpose

*What do you *think* the answer to the question will be?*

A hypothesis is an educated guess, written in one sentence. For an experiment you can say, "If blank is done, then blank will happen".

For a demonstration, collection or model you need to write a Statement of Purpose. Tell why your project is important to show?

4. Materials

List all the materials you used in your experiment.

5. Steps- Procedure

List the steps explaining how you conducted your project.

Use diagrams, graphs and photos to show what you did.

6. Results

What did you learn from your project? A chart or graph is a great way to show what happened. Also include the new information you learned.

7. Conclusion

*Was your hypothesis correct? Discuss your results. What did you learn about your topic?
The conclusion should be at least one paragraph.*

Science Fair Ideas

1. LIBRARY:

Our own WGE library, as well as any San Jose Public library, has a great selection of books on science fair projects and experiments. Ask the librarian to help find the science section in the kid's area.

2. INTERNET:

Always ask your parents permission before using the internet.

Some of the words you could use in your online search are:

- Science fair; Science fair projects; science fair ideas
- Include any words from your area of interest like; volcanoes, animals, solar system, plants, electricity.....
- You can also get specific like, "light and plants", "perfume and smell", "make a volcano", or "Make electricity from a potato"

Two websites which list many Science Fair ideas are:

- www.sciencenewsforkids.org Go to the 'Science Fair Zone' section
- www.sciencebuddies.org

3. EXAMPLES:

Below are a few Science Fair project examples.

Experiment: A good Science Fair project can be very simple, testing one idea.

- Which plant will grow faster, one with full sunlight or one in the dark?
- Which bridge is stronger? Design two bridges to hold varying weights.
- Which type of paint fades faster in sunlight? How does this effect museum art?

Demonstration: You can demonstrate a scientific concept.

- How does an electric current power a light?
- How does a camera work?
- What do owls eat? Unravel an owl pellet showing the bones & fur of a mouse.

Collection: You can show a collection of scientific samples.

- Show the rock cycle with examples of igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic rocks.
- Show several succulent plants and discuss how they retain water in a desert.
- Show many different feathers and the birds they belong to.

Model: Show how something works using a model.

- Make a model of an eye, describing all the parts and what they do.
- Make a model of a simple machine and explain how it works.

Name _____

Creating a Science Fair Project from an idea!

1. *What kind of project will you do?*
experiment demonstration model collection

2. What background research did you find about your subject?

3. Experiment:
 - If you do an experiment you need a hypothesis.

 - What are you testing in your experiment?

 - How will you test your hypothesis?

4. Demonstration, Collection or Model:
 - For these you do not need a hypothesis. Instead write a statement of purpose. What is the purpose of your project?

 - How will you demonstrate your project? Or display your collection or model?

5. Remember.....All projects need a materials list, procedure, results, and conclusion.

