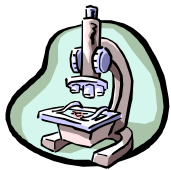




Science Rules!

Centennial Lane Elementary School
Science Fair Handbook
For
2007-2008



Dear Young Scientist,

Congratulations on your decision to participate in this year's Science Fair! Please read the following information packet carefully with a family member. It has the project guidelines for this year and lots of helpful hints for you. We look forward to your project!

Sincerely,

The CLES Science Fair Committee

Timeline for Science Fair Project:

Date	Activity
Mon Dec 31 st	Science Fair Packets available on the CLES Web Site
Dec 31 st – Mar 3 rd	Choose a Topic
	Research Topic
	Form a question
	Continue Research
	Conduct Investigation
Fri Feb 15th	<i>LAST DAY TO REGISTER</i>
Mar 4 th – Mar 10 th	Complete Worksheet
	Complete Display Board
Tue Mar 11 th	6:00 – Bring Project to CLES
	6:30 – Science Fair!

The PTA will not be offering display boards for purchase this year. However, you can usually find them at local office supply stores and large craft stores.

Remember that Winter Break is around the corner. It's a great time to work on projects at home.

Science Fair Project Guidelines

These guidelines are designed to ensure the safety of our science fair participants and the viewing public. Science fair project proposals will be reviewed for compliance with these guidelines.

1. Science fair projects may not include inhumane treatment of people or animals.
2. No living organisms except plants will be exhibited at the fair. Display of spoiled foods, molds, bacteria, microorganisms or any other type of cultured growth is not permitted, unless they are in a sealed plastic container.
3. Anything that could be harmful to the public or that is prohibited on school property cannot be exhibited at the fair. This includes harmful chemicals, caustics, acids, poisons, explosives, open flames, combustible materials, and sharp items (knives, pins, hypodermic needles).
4. Models or photographs can be used instead of things that are restricted from display.
5. There will be space for each exhibitor to have a display board and a small amount of table space in front of the display board. No running water or electricity will be available. If you are interested in developing a project involving electricity, you may choose to use batteries.
6. Projects should be developed, carried out, and exhibited by students with minimal help from adults.
7. In the interests of bus safety, we ask that students bring their projects to school the evening of the Science Fair, rather than on the school bus. Students will set up their projects in their assigned locations during the half hour preceding the Fair.

Designing and conducting a Well-Designed Investigation

In Science we have conducted many interesting and exciting investigations.

A well-designed investigation has the following elements:

- A **question** to be tested or a problem to be solved
- A **hypothesis** or prediction about what you expect to happen (if... then... because)
- **Materials** – supplies needed for investigation
- 3 types of **variables** (Intermediate level, grades 3-5)
 - **independent** – the variable that is changed
 - **dependent** – the variable that will be affected by the tests
 - **controlled** – the variables that remain the same throughout the investigation
- clear **procedures** (or steps) that make up your experiment. They should be repeated at least 3 times
- collected **data** – what you observe when you perform the investigation
- **analysis** of data – think about and discuss what you have observed. What were your results?
- **conclusion** – what you learn from the data that you collect
- possible **questions** to test the next time

Your final project will consist of a self-standing display board on which you will share all the parts of your investigation. All of these parts must be typed or neatly written. Pictures with captions, by camera or hand drawn, are strongly encouraged to help your audience clearly understand all the parts of your investigation.

Ideas for projects can be found online and in books at the local library or the school's media center. A few sources are listed on the CLES Science Fair website at www.clespta.org/ScienceFair.

CLÉS Science Fair Project Planning Worksheet

Question: *What I want to know*

Prediction / Hypothesis: *What I think*

Materials: *What I used for my project (clay, cups, soil, books, web...)*

Variables: *Independent, Dependent and Controlled (for intermediate grades 3-5)*

Steps / Procedure: *What I did to complete my project. Write in a list or in paragraph form. Explain your materials and how you will use them.*

Science Fair Plan-Your-Display Sheet

Use colors, make clear and neat pictures, be creative!



This is only one example of a project display board. There are many different ways to display information. Ask your teacher, look for books on science fair projects at the media center, or check online for more examples.

DISPLAY TAG

Complete the form below. Please print all information neatly. Your project number will be given to you the night of the fair.

Cut out the form and affix it to your project in the upper left corner of the title bar or display board. The display tag helps the project reviewers find your project.

CLES Science Fair	
Name(s)	Grade

Title:	

Project Number:	

Science Fair Registration

Please turn in this form to “officially register” your project. It must be turned in no later than **Fri Feb 15th**.

There is a \$2.00 registration fee for each student. Checks should be made out to the **CLES PTA**.

Teams consisting of up to 3 students are allowed. Only one registration form is required. The project will be registered under the first student's name. However, **ALL** students must be listed on the form so their names can be included on the program.

Student's Name _____ **Teacher/Grade** _____

Partner's Name _____ **Teacher/Grade** _____

Partner's Name _____ **Teacher/Grade** _____

Students _____ **X \$2.00 registration fee =** _____

Question being answered _____

I have reviewed the Science Fair Guidelines with my child and will ensure that the project complies with them.

X _____
(Parent Signature)