



## Jackson Elementary School Science Fair

Everyone (Grades 1-5) is invited to participate!

Thursday, February 2, 2023

### IMPORTANT DATES

- **Wednesday, January 25, 2023:** Entry forms due. Entry forms may be submitted online at [www.jacksonedhpto.org/science-fair](http://www.jacksonedhpto.org/science-fair)
- **Wednesday, February 1, 2023:** Projects submitted for judging due in Ruppel Center by 3:10 p.m. (Grades 3-5 only)
- **Thursday, February 2, 2023:** All other project boards and notebooks are due in classrooms (Grades 1-2) or the Ruppel Center (Grades 3-5) before school starts.

**Volunteers Needed:** If you wish to judge or volunteer at the Science Fair, please contact Stacy Vorster (email: [STEM@jacksonedhpto.org](mailto:STEM@jacksonedhpto.org)).

**We need your help to make the Science Fair a success!**

**More Info, Entry Form, & Tips on the PTO Website:** [www.jacksonedhpto.org/science-fair](http://www.jacksonedhpto.org/science-fair)

## HOW DO I PARTICIPATE?

**\*\*Participation is voluntary, and students will not be graded on Science Fair work unless told otherwise by your teacher(s)\*\***

The Entry Form is available here: [www.jacksonedhpto.org/science-fair](http://www.jacksonedhpto.org/science-fair)

Students may work in pairs—only one entry form is required, but both names must be included on the entry form.

Once you have submitted the entry form, follow these easy steps:

**Step 1:** Get a notebook. This is where you are going to record all your notes and data for your project. It's like keeping a diary of your work. The judges will be looking at all your information in this notebook. A few extra notebooks are in the office, if needed.

**Step 2:** Ask a question! Is there something that you are interested in learning about? Do some research in books and the Internet for science fair project ideas.

**Step 3:** Choose a format and conduct your experiment. There are two types:

- Learn and Explain (not judged)
- Scientific Experiment (Grades 3-5 may choose to be judged)

*(See following pages for descriptions of each format.)*

**Step 4:** Communicate your results! Get a display board to make your presentation. Ensure your **full name, grade and teacher's name, are written on the back of your board** prior to submitting. A few extra boards are in the office.

**Step 5:** Bring your completed board and notebook to school. Grades 1 and 2 will show their projects their classroom. Grades 3-5 will display in the Ruppel Center. *Projects submitted for judging (Grades 3-5 only) must be dropped off by 3:10 p.m. on Wednesday, February 1.* All others must be dropped before school on Thursday, February 2.

**Step 6:** Attend the Science Fair with your class and enjoy the experience!

## THE SCIENCE FAIR FORMATS

### **Option 1: Learn and Explain**

Students using this format are not judged or eligible for awards. “Learn and Explain” is perfect for the student who wants to participate in the fair but does not want the pressure of being judged. Also, there is no required hypothesis to challenge. It is just how it sounds—the student learns something and then explains it!

**All 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade entries must be “Learn and Explain.”** In addition, if families wish to work together on a project, they should choose the “Learn and Explain” method.

#### ***Required elements for Learn and Explain projects:***

- *Background:* Provide information about the scientific concept you are exploring.
- *Procedure:* List materials and describe how you explored your idea. This could be a model, a survey, artwork, or other ways of presenting your concept.
- *Observations:* Describe what happened when you tested your concept or built your model.
- *Conclusion:* Describe what you learned from this project and how it could be used in real life. Discuss any problems you encountered and how you overcame them.

### **Option 2: Scientific Experiment**

Projects that are “Scientific Experiment” entries have the option of being judged.

#### ***Required elements for Scientific Experiment projects:***

1. Introduction
  - *Purpose:* Explain what you are trying to prove or why you are doing the experiment.
  - *Investigative Question:* What do you want to know?
  - *Hypothesis:* Explain what you think will happen in the experiment and why.

2. Procedure
  - Materials: Make a list (with exact amounts and units if possible).
  - Method: Explain how the experiment is set up, and the steps you took to perform the experiment.
3. Data: Describe or show observations and display actual measurements (in graphs, tables, photos, etc.).
4. Results: Summarize your test results and explain how the results pertain to the objectives or purpose.
5. Conclusion: Discuss how the results support (or don't support) your hypothesis. Discuss possibilities for errors, how the experiment could be improved, future possible steps, and real-life applications.
6. Bibliography: List all websites, books, or other sources that you used to do this experiment.

**Note: The interview portion is just part of the judging process –make sure everything you want to say is on your board and in your notebook!**

**Important: If students wish to take part in the judging, they must meet the following criteria:**

- In Grades 3-5
- Select the "Scientific Experiment" format
- Maintain a lab notebook that contains everything from initial ideas, to experiment, to conclusions.

### **OTHER HELPFUL LINKS FOR PROJECT IDEAS AND TIPS**

- <http://www.sacstemfair.org/>
- <http://www.all-science-fair-projects.com>
- <http://www.juliantrubin.com/fairencyclopedia.html>
- <https://ca.pbslearningmedia.org/collection/zoom/#.YBHnvS1h1u>
- <https://www.titleproloans.com/articles/car-science-experiments/>
- <http://www.sciencebuddies.org>
- <https://www.titlemax.com/engineering-games-and-projects-from-titlemax-com/>