Huntersville Elementary School Science Fair

Wow, this is really cool!

Who has to participate in the science fair?

- Every third thru fifth grade student at Huntersville Elementary School is expected to participate in the science fair.
- The science fair project counts as a major portion of each student's second quarter science grade. The weight of the grade will be determined by each grade level.
- K-2nd grade students are permitted to participate, but their project will NOT be judged by the outside judges.

What do I need to do now?

- _____1) **September 16, 2016**—Parent signature slips are due to science teachers.
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- _____2) **September 30, 2016**—Topic must be turned in to science teacher for approval.
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- _____3) Begin to organize yourself. You need to create your own timeline for completing the various aspects of your science fair project.
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- _____4) Set up your log book and begin your research paper. Begin your documentation. The log book is to be kept in the student's handwriting. The research paper and all items on the board should be typed if your child wishes to be considered for judging.

What do I need to do now? p.2

- _____5) **November 4, 2016**—Complete a rough draft of the final project to submit to your science teacher.
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- _____6) **December 6, 2016**—All science fair projects must be turned in. Late work will not be accepted and cannot be included in the judging. Students will take them to their homeroom. Projects will be set up in the gym by class at some point during the day.
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- _____7) **December 6-8, 2016**—Science fair projects will be judged by outside judges.
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- _____8) **December 8, 2016**—Parents may come to view exhibits between 5:00-7:00PM.
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- _____9) **December 9, 2016**—Exhibits will be taken down and returned to students.

Aside from getting a good grade in science, why should I do a project?

- Science incorporates many educational tools/life skills: critical thinking, problem solving, understanding of cause/effect relationships, and the skills of keeping records and budgeting time to meet specific deadlines.

How do I decide what to do my project on?

- There is a list of possible science fair topics on page 12 of the student agenda.
- All projects need to be experimental NOT demonstrations or models.
- In the parent packet tonight there is also a list of project ideas.
- Pick something that you think you will have fun with.
- What interests do you have? (cooking, sports, gardening, up cycling……)
- Make sure it is something that is safe and that the student understands.
- There is also a list of websites in tonight's packet where you can find additional possibilities.
- Students in fifth grade are not allowed to do a project dealing with which paper airplane flies the farthest. This was what we did as a class project. ☺
- Your child's science teacher must approve your child's topic prior to them starting on it.

Who does the project?

- Students should be doing ALL of the work involved in the science fair project.
- Parents should be a guide and a cheerleader for their child.

- All work including typing should be done by the student.
- We would rather the board NOT be perfect, but 100% child work.

What do I have to do to be considered for winning first, second, or third place?

- You must follow all of the guidelines for completing the science fair projects.
- All parts must be typed except for the chart/data.
- No pictures of faces can be on the display board, even if they are pictures of celebrities.
- Data should support the conclusions.
- There must be a research report written by the student not downloaded off the internet dealing with some topic related to the project.
- In their write up they should include what one variable was changed in their experiment.
- All projects must be experimental.
- Students cannot do models or demonstrations for their project.

Rules and Regulations

- AN EXHIBIT DONE BY AN ADULT IN THE STUDENT'S NAME IS NOT ACCEPTABLE.
- All exhibits are to be experimental, meaning a question is to be answered through your child's experiment. **No** inventions or non-experimental exhibits will be accepted.
- The science fair exhibit is a visual display of the entire investigation carried out by the student. The student's exhibit size is limited to 36in. deep, 36 in. wide (Folded corrugated cardboard display boards that you purchase measure 48 in. unfolded. The fold is what causes it to stand alone.) , and 36 in. high. All exhibits must be free standing. The display needs to be sturdy so that it will not turn over. They may be made of corrugated cardboard or reinforced poster board.
- A logbook is required for each exhibit as well as a research report on background material dealing with some area of the student's project. Consult your child's teacher for specifics on the research paper.

Rules and Regulations cont'd

- The student's **name** should be on the **back** of the exhibit. The student's face should not be in any photograph used in the exhibit.
- **All items with the exhibit, except the logbook and research paper, must be attached to the board. Aside from the logbook, research paper, and the display board, no items may be touching the table. All boards must be able to close flat.**
- No electricity will be provided.
- No live animals, preserved vertebrate animals, or animal parts, including embryos, may be exhibited. Research involving the use of animals may display drawings, charts, photos, or graphs to illustrate the conditions, developments, or results of the investigation. Humane treatment of animal subjects is expected and required.

Rules and Regulations cont'd

- No living organisms, including plants, no human or animal food, and no laboratory/household cleaners, including water may be attached.
- Exhibits must be durable. Movable parts must be firmly attached. Push buttons and levers must be securely mounted and may not be attached to tables and walls. **No header boards allowed.**
- **Every third, fourth, and fifth grade student is required to submit a science fair project. Kindergarten, first, and second grade students can do a group and/or individual project. Participation for K-2 is optional, but highly encouraged. Only third, fourth, and fifth grade projects will be involved in the judging process. THIS PROJECT WILL BE A MAJOR PORTION OF YOUR CHILD'S SECOND QUARTER SCIENCE GRADE. LATE PROJECTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

SCIENCE FAIRRUBRIC 2016

Category	Exemplary = 3 Points	Proficient = 2 Points	Partially Proficient = 1 Point
Scientific Method	□ Contains all required parts: • Question/Problem • Hypothesis • Materials • Log Book • Procedure • Constants and Variable • Data displayed • Conclusion	□ Missing 1 or 2 of the required parts: • Question/Problem • Hypothesis • Materials • Log Book • Procedure • Constants and Variable • Data Displayed • Conclusion	□ Missing 3 or more of the required parts: • Question/Problem • Hypothesis • Materials • Log Book • Procedure • Constants and Variable • Data Displayed • Conclusion
Display of Data	□ Contains all required parts: • Analysis of results displayed in the form of a chart, table, or graph • Documentation of experiment through pictures (they may be photographs or drawings) • Evidence that experiment was conducted a minimum of three times.	□ Missing 1 of the required parts: • Analysis of results displayed in the form of a chart, table, or graph • Documentation of experiment through pictures (they may be photographs or drawings) • Evidence that experiment was conducted a minimum of three times.	□ Missing 2 of the required parts: • Analysis of results displayed in the form of a chart, table, or graph • Documentation of experiment through pictures (they may be photographs or drawings) • Evidence that experiment was conducted a minimum of three times.

Logbook	**□ Contains <u>all</u> required parts:** • **Student has a logbook** • **The logbook is filled with details of the experiment conducted and is not just a rough draft of the display board.** • **Detailed evidence that the experiment was conducted a minimum of three times.**	**□ Missing 1 of the required parts:** • **Student has a logbook** • **The logbook is filled with details of the experiment conducted and is not just a rough draft of the display board.** • **Detailed evidence that the experiment was conducted a minimum of three times.**	**□ Missing 2 of the required parts:** • **Student has a logbook** • **The logbook is filled with details of the experiment conducted and is not just a rough draft of the display board.** • **Detailed evidence that the experiment was conducted a minimum of three times.**
Research	□ Contains <u>all</u> required parts: • Research report including based on a topic related to the experiment conducted. • Bibliography included with a minimum of three sources • Report is written in paragraph form in student's own words.	□ Missing 1 of the required parts: • Research report including based on a topic related to the experiment conducted. • Bibliography included with a minimum of three sources • Report is written in paragraph form in student's own words.	□ Missing 2 of the required parts: • Research report including based on a topic related to the experiment conducted. • Bibliography included with a minimum of three sources • Report is written in paragraph form in student's own words.

Layout	**□ Contains all required parts:** • **Correct layout of display board.** • **All items except log book are attached to the board (not touching the table).** • **All parts of the scientific method are displayed.** • **Work is neatly displayed.**	**□ Missing 1 of the required parts:** • **Correct layout of display board.** • **All items except log book are attached to the board (not touching the table).** • **All parts of the scientific method are displayed.** • **Work is neatly displayed.**	**□ Missing 2 of the required parts:** • **Correct layout of display board.** • **All items except log book are attached to the board (not touching the table).** • **All parts of the scientific method are displayed.** • **Work is neatly displayed.**
Written Presentation of Project (This includes research paper and display board)	□ Contains all required parts: • Focused and on topic. • Good grammar, spelling, and punctuation. • Good sentence structure • Evidence of proofreading and editing. • Neatly written	□ Missing 1 of the required parts: • Focused and on topic. • Good grammar, spelling, and punctuation. • Good sentence structure • Evidence of proofreading and editing. • Neatly written	□ Missing 2 of the required parts: • Focused and on topic. • Good grammar, spelling, and punctuation. • Good sentence structure • Evidence of proofreading and editing. • Neatly written
Oral Presentation	□ Oral presentation demonstrates good knowledge of topic.	□ Oral presentation demonstrates fair knowledge of topic.	□ Oral presentation demonstrates poor knowledge of topic.

Point System

21 Points = 100%	**20 Points = 95%**	**19 Points = 90%**	**18 Points = 86%**
17 Points = 81%	**16 Points = 76%**	**15 Points = 71%**	**14 Points = 67%**
13 Points = 62%	**12 Points = 57%**	**11 Points = 52%**	**10 Points = 48%**
9 Points = 43%	**8 Points = 38%**	**7 Points = 33%**	**6 Points = 29%**

What happens if I win?

- All students in third thru fifth grade that win first, second or third place for their grade level are given the opportunity to move on to the Regional Science Fair at UNC Charlotte. Winners will be given information and they can choose whether or not they wish to go forward.
- Over the years HES students have won at both the regional and state competitions.

Can I still get an "A" if I don't win first, second, or third place?

- YES!!!!!!!!
- Students can earn an "A" if they follow the scientific method and the guidelines their teachers give them.
- The outside judges that determine the winners are BRUTAL when scoring as they are attempting to narrow down over one hundred entries per grade level down to three.
- Teachers are more understanding and know what each child on an individual basis is capable of.

The most important thing to remember is……..

- **All projects are due December 6, 2016.**