

Science Fair

What is science fair?

Science fair is organized by the Illinois Junior Academy of Science (IJAS), which has established science standards for exploration in the last twenty years. Science fair allows you to pursue some aspect of science that is interesting to you to and learn the basics of the scientific processes. Science fair promotes critical thinking, logical reasoning, and encourages students to view science across many disciplines. The science fair is an opportunity for you to create a project revolving around a controlled experiment. You will develop a question that will allow you to test one variable about your topic. You will then carry out the experiment, collect data, assemble a written report, create a poster displaying your results, and share an oral presentation on your experiment.

Who May Participate?

All 7th and 8th graders are encouraged to participate. You may work alone or with partners.

Technology Requirement

You must have an email address (you or a parent) that will be used to communicate throughout the year.

Time Commitment:

Approximately three months are needed to complete the Woodlawn Science Fair. If you advance to the Regional Science Fair and State Science Fair, you will need to spend more time refining your project further. Since this task is very time consuming, you will receive one letter grade of extra credit (10%) in the third quarter grading period in science class *if* you compete in the Woodlawn Science Fair.

When Is Science Fair?

The *Local Woodlawn Middle School Science Fair* will be held **MID-JANUARY** during the school day. The students will display and present their projects to local judges. An awards ceremony will be held on the same day as the school fair, but in the evening so parents can come. Students who receive an outstanding or a high first place award may advance to the Regional Science Fair.

Regional Science Fair will be held on **MID-MARCH** at Glenbrook North High School. There is an opportunity to earn special awards, savings bonds, and/or cash prizes at this level. Students who receive a gold award (outstanding project) from the Regional Science Fair will advance to the State Science Fair.

State Science Fair will be held **EARLY MAY** at the University of Illinois in Champaign, Illinois. There is an opportunity to earn special awards, savings bonds, and/or cash prizes at this level as well.

The components of the science fair are as follows:

1. EVERY PARTICIPATING STUDENT MUST REGISTER FOR SCIENCE FAIR AT:
<http://www.mrphome.net/scifair> (click the "SCIENCE FAIR REGISTRATION" link)
2. Select an experimental topic.
3. Enter your project idea / proposal using:
<http://www.mrphome.net/scifair> (click the "PROJECT PROPOSAL" link)
4. Once your project is approved, you may begin working on the science fair project.
5. Perform background research on your topic. This includes writing a 5-7 page research paper on your topic.
6. Set up a one-on-one after school appointments with your sponsor throughout the process to discuss the progress of your project **OR** attend the weekly science fair meetings held weekly in room 610 with Mrs. Garlick.
7. Complete all of the components of the science fair write-up by the deadlines given. (You will receive information on this once your project idea is approved.)
8. Upon completion of your experiment, you will prepare a written report, display board, and an oral presentation for the judges at the science fair.

Science Fair Sponsor:

Mrs. Garlick Room 610 mgarlick@kcsd96.org

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ALONG THE WAY PLEASE COME SEE US OR USE EMAIL