Margaret Mead Elementary 2016 Science Fair

6:30-8:00pm

**SCIENCE EXPERIMENT GUIDELINES**

Hello Scientists!

We are very excited to have you participate in this fun, exciting event! Here is some information to help get you started!

First things first, will you be doing an **Investigation** or an **Invention** project??

**Investigations Project Steps:**

1**. Ask a Question to identify your investigation** What would you like to discover?

2. **Make a Prediction**  What do you think will happen and why?

3. **Identify your Materials** What do you specifically need to complete your investigation?

4. **What Procedure did you use?** What are the steps?

What are the variables (controlled and changed/manipulated)?

What is measured and how often?

5. **Record your Data/Results** Organize the information and results during your investigation.

Repeat to confirm results.

6. **Make a Conclusion** Based upon evidence from the data, answer your question.

**Inventions Project Steps:**

1. [**Identify a Problem**](http://school.discoveryeducation.com/sciencefaircentral/Science-Fair-Projects/Identify-a-Problem.html) Focus on a problem that can be solved
2. [**Conduct Background Research**](http://school.discoveryeducation.com/sciencefaircentral/Science-Fair-Projects/Invention-Conduct-Background-Research.html) Find out what others know. You can use your own

experience or ask others around you. You can also

do research in a book, web or magazine

1. [**Suggest a Solution**](http://school.discoveryeducation.com/sciencefaircentral/Science-Fair-Projects/Invention-Suggest-a-Solution-and-Explain-Why-It-Should-Work.html) Propose an idea on how to solve it and explain why it should work.
2. [**Design and Build the Solution**](http://school.discoveryeducation.com/sciencefaircentral/Science-Fair-Projects/Design-and-Build-the-Solution.html) Think of a way to *measure* the change your invention will make.
3. [**Collect Data**](http://school.discoveryeducation.com/sciencefaircentral/Science-Fair-Projects/Collect-Data.html) Remember to record your data. Without it, there is no way to prove your idea or invention worked.
4. [**Analyze Data and Report Results**](http://school.discoveryeducation.com/sciencefaircentral/Science-Fair-Projects/Analyze-Data-and-Report-Results.html) Using a table or graph is a great way to help organize the data so it can be reviewed.

**Your Display…**

* Let your display reflect your personality, be creative!
* Bring your journal for people to look at if you kept one

12”

Title of Project

Results

Purpose

32” or 36”

Procedure

Conclusion

Hypothesis

24”

**Standard Three-Fold Project Board**

Project boards can be found at most craft stores (Michael’s), office supply stores (Office Depot) and at Bartell Drugs. Prices are approximately $5 –12 (depending on style and material) You can also make your own out of cardboard.

**Projects may not include…**

* Science or math kits from stores or the internet.
* Expensive or non-replaceable personal property items.
* Live animals or pets (even insects.)
* No matches or open flame. NO FIRES OF ANY KIND!
* Chemicals that are toxic, flammable or dangerous by themselves or when combined.
* Anything that requires an electrical outlet (we will NOT have electricity available.)
* Electricity.
* Heat, anything high in temperature, or conductive.
* Blood or gory animal or body parts.
* Uncontained messes or gooey substances.
* Unattended balloons or other small or potentially dangerous items.

**Judging of the projects…**

The Science Fair is a non-competitive fair. We want every student to walk away feeling like a winner! Each child will discuss their project with a judge and receive a ribbon and certificate for participating.

**Advice for parents…**

**Help your child to get started.** Please avoid doing your child’s project.

**Encourage your child**. There are no winners or losers; there is no right or wrong question.

**Ensure safety**. Avoid anything that could be dangerous for your child or the other students.

**Monitor your child’s progress**. Guide your child to ensure a successful project.

**If you need help…**

Here are some helpful web sites to go to for help on science projects:

<http://www.kcls.org/databases>

<http://www.ipl.org/div/projectguide/>

<http://school.discovery.com/sciencefaircentral/>

<https://showboard.com>

[www.sciencebuddies.org](http://www.sciencebuddies.org)

There are lots of books in the Mead and Sammamish libraries to help you.

Students can also use ideas from science units they have studied in class.

Most importantly, be prepared to have fun and to think like a Scientist!

**What to Expect on the Night?**

6:00-6:30pm – Time to set up your project  
6:30pm-7:00pm-Kindergarten- 2nd grade projects to be judged\*

7:00pm-7:30pm- 3rd-5th grade projects to be judged\*

6:30pm-8:00pm- Enjoy viewing the student projects and participating in the fun exhibits by outside vendors

**\*\*During the time that your child’s grade is being judged, we ask that your child stand by their project to be able to explain it to the judge. Once the allotted time is over you and your child can have fun exploring the other student’s projects and the fun activities at the different exhibits.**

Questions or want to help?? Contact Pamela Piggott at [pamgaynor@hotmail.com](mailto:pamgaynor@hotmail.com) or 425-559-1202