

Frequently Asked Questions Concerning the Science Fair

What is the Lincoln School Science Fair?

The science fair is a voluntary, extra-curricular opportunity for students to study a science-related topic outside of the classroom, and to either perform an actual experiment or explain a scientific process.

Is the fair judged?

No. The Lincoln School Science Fair is not structured as a competition, and all students will receive recognition and positive feedback from adult reviewers.

What should my project look like?

All projects should be submitted on a tri-fold display detailing the steps of the project. Additional visuals may be used. However, no open flames, dangerous, or combustible materials are allowed.

How do I get started?

Step 1 - Decide what kind of project you would like to create.

1. Experimental – This is when you perform an actual experiment,
2. Explanation of a scientific process- This is when you research and explain a specific scientific process.

To get ideas, look further in this packet. You can also research ideas at the library and online.

Step 2 - Once you have selected your topic, apply the Scientific Method to create your project. The Scientific Method is as follows:

1. Ask a question.
2. Research the topic for which are asking the question.
3. Form an opinion (hypothesis) about what you think the answer will be.
4. Test your hypothesis by performing an experiment or researching to answer the question.
5. Explain what you observed or found and compare it to your original hypothesis.

Step 3 – Prepare your display board. Here are some general guidelines:

Left tri-fold – materials list, procedures,

Center tri-fold – title of project and scientist(s) names, question, hypothesis, analysis

Right tri-fold – conclusion, summary

There are many examples of displays on the internet.

What science topics are being studied in school?

Kindergarten

Trees: Paper and Wood, Seasons: Hibernation, Space/Planets, Animals, Plants, Five Senses, Recycling/Protecting the Environment, Nutrition, Safety (fire, food and strangers)

Grade 1

Balance and Motion
New Plants

Grade 2

Solids and Liquids
Air and Water
Insects

Grade 3

Measurement
Earth Materials
Structure of Life

Grade 4

Magnetism and Electricity
Human Body
Ecology and Habitats
Drug Awareness
Phases of the Moon

Grade 5

Food
Nutrition
Landforms
Variables
Independent Research

Where can I look for additional help?

www.sciencebuddies.org (Use the Topic Selection Wizard)

www.factmonster.com

www.easy-kids-science-experiments.com