

2012

Student Academic Showcase

Science Fair packet

Date: April 17

Time: 5:30-6:30 p.m.



St. Louis Public Schools
Nikkari Elementary School
989-681-5131

Science Fair Project

Dear Parents,

On April 17, 2012, Nikkari Elementary will be having a Student Academic Showcase. The requirement for third grade students will be a science fair project. A list is included in this packet with suggestions for projects. This is just a list, and students are free to pick other topics. All projects however, must be approved by the teacher via the attached form.

All projects are to be worked on and completed 100% at home. You can find ideas from a science book, materials you have at home, or books from the school or public library. T.A. Cutler Library has many books specifically for the science fair. Below you will see what the requirements are for the science fair project.

Requirements:

1. **Scientific Process Paper-** What does the project represent or do? Describe the process or experiment. An outline is included in this packet for students to use for their paper.
2. **The project-** All projects must fit on a table. It should have a backboard or hinged posterboard/cardboard. This allows the project to be self-standing. An example sheet is provided. Backboards can be purchased at the school for \$3.00. An order form is included for your convenience. It is important to have a **labeled diagram** so the viewers can see what it is that was accomplished in this project. This can be attached to the backboard.
3. **Oral presentation-** All students are required to give an oral presentation on their project. A grading rubric is included for this presentation.

Please note:

- You may work along with your child as he/she selects, investigates and reports on an appropriate science area.
- Please encourage your child to do most, if not all of the work.
- Guide your child whenever and wherever you can, but let the final project reflect your child's effort and design.
- The grading rubric is attached for student and parent reference.

To help you, the following papers with suggestions, diagrams, and forms should give you enough information.

Our goal is to stimulate an interest in science and curiosity about our world. Awards are secondary; the learning is what is important. If you have further questions please feel free to contact your son/daughter's teacher.

Sincerely,

Nikkari Third Grade Teachers

Name _____
Presentation Rubric

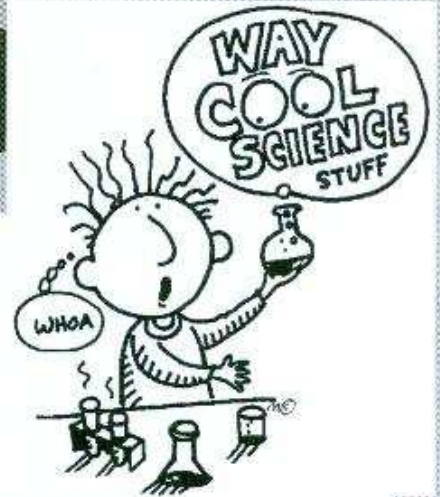
Category	3 pts-WOW!	2 Pts-Almost There	0-1 pts-still learning
Speak Clearly	We can understand everything you say. It makes sense.	There were a few words I couldn't understand, but I mostly get the idea.	We could not understand what you were trying to say and did not understand your ideas.
Speak Loud enough	Everyone in the classroom could hear you clearly.	We had to strain to hear at times, but we could still hear you.	You did not speak loud enough and many people could not hear you at all.
Eye Contact	You looked right at the audience most of the time and looked around the room	You made an attempt to look up, but still looked at your paper a lot.	You did not look up at all, or only once.
Enthusiasm and Expression	You were really exciting and spoke with expression	You made some attempt at expression and excitement	You spoke the same as you always would.

Total Points _____ out of 12

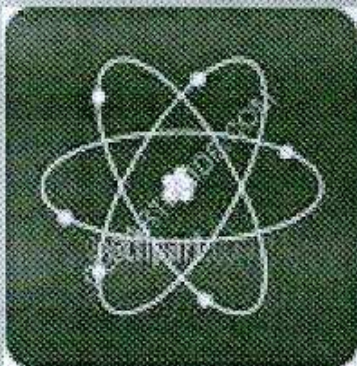
Grade: _____

Project Ideas on the Web

Need an idea? Here are some helpful websites we found for Science Fair Projects:



- <http://www.scifair.org/> (click on ideas)
- <http://www.education.com/science-fair/third-grade/>
- <http://pbskids.org/dragonflytv/scifair/index.html>
- <http://www.all-science-fair-projects.com/> (search by topic)
- <http://school.discovery.com/sciencefaircentral/> (discovery channel)
- <http://www.ipl.org/div/projectguide/> (links to many different sites on many topics!)



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Dear Parents,

We have display boards available for the student's science fair projects. The size of the board is 36" tall by 48" wide. It is a tri-fold board and the cost is \$3.00. If you are interested, fill out the bottom half of this page, return it to school with the \$3.00. You do not have to buy this board. It is being made available only if you want it.

Thank you,

Nikkari Third Grade Teachers

Name _____ Grade _____

Teacher's name _____ Paid _____

Yes, I would like the science fair display board for my child's science fair project. I understand it costs \$3.00. Quantities are limited.

Please return this portion along with the \$3.00 to your child's teacher.

MY SCIENCE PROJECT FORM

NAME _____

(Question) I wanted to find out:

(Purpose) I did this experiment:

(Hypothesis) I think this will happen:

I used these materials:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

(Procedure) These were the steps of the experiment.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

(Results) This is what happened:

(Conclusion) I decided that:

My experiment: 1) answered my question _____
2) did not answer my question _____.

I have received and read this science fair manual. I understand that my student must do a science fair project for the April 17, 2012 science fair. I understand that this project is a significant part of my student's science grade. I understand that failure to do the project will result in a failing grade.

My wonderful student is _____

Parent Signature _____

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My wonderful student is _____

Parent Signature _____

Dear Parent,

Your third grade son or daughter's science fair project is an activity that is to be done at home. It is important that you look through the science fair packet together and choose a topic. Usually simpler is better. Our main goal is that the student conducts an experiment using the scientific method. This includes: asking a **question**, forming a **hypothesis**, conducting an **experiment**, and drawing a **conclusion**. Teachers will help steer students in the right direction.

Students and parents must fill out the form below and return it **NO LATER THAN TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2012.**

Student Name

Teacher's Name

Student signature

Parent signature

Question you are going to answer with your experiment: _____

Briefly describe your project: _____

* If you decide to change your experiment after submitting this form, you must resubmit a new form for approval by the teacher.