

Dear Middle School Parents,

Your child will again be participating in the Coonley Elementary School Science Fair, an exciting event that encourages students to think like young scientists. During the next several weeks your child will be designing and executing a science project of their choosing in an area of their interest. During the science fair process, students will have the opportunity to develop writing, oral presentation, creative thinking, and problem solving skills.

Your child will be given materials and instructions during class for completing the various components of their project, including the research paper, display board, and oral presentation. The majority of the actual experimentation will need to be completed at home; however, students will be completing most of their research paper, graphs and tables, and display boards at school..

I ask that you encourage your child and monitor his or her progress along the way. Your support is the key to a successful project, but please do not allow your involvement to extend any further in order to assure equity and promote student learning! It is important that your child wrestles with problems and tries to solve them independently. Guide them whenever and wherever you can, but let the final project reflect your child's individual effort and design. Also, keep in mind that a successful project can be completed for under \$10.

All due dates pertaining to science fair are all listed on the back. Your child's grade will reflect their overall project, as well as their ability to meet these deadlines.

Please make note that all students will participate in our school science fair on Friday, December 8th, 2017.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me. I look forward to helping your child enjoy this unique opportunity for scientific discovery!

Sincerely,

Laura Beecher
Middle School Science Teacher
lebeeche@cps.edu

Science Fair Project Agenda 2017

Assignment	Date
Topic: At this point you should have a topic selected for your science fair project, this topic must describe what specific phenomenon you look to explain or what engineering based problem you will find a solution for.	Sep. 11-12
Purpose: You will have a statement describing what phenomenon you are looking to explain or the engineering based problem for which you will find a solution. Also, you will have a general description (1-2 sentences) of your plan for coming up with either an explanation or solution to your topic.	Sep. 15
Research Question Proposal: This will be an activity that will be started in class and my require time at home to finish. You will brainstorm different questions that you need answered related to you specific topic that will help you to better understand your experiment. You must come up with 5 specific questions.	Sep. 18-19
Research Question Organizer: Again, this will be an activity that will be started in class and my require time at home to finish. I will narrow down your 5 questions to 3. You will then research answers to the 3 questions. The organizer is used to record your researched answers. You will include an answer with quotes from your research to support your claims, as well as links that can be referenced to those quotes for each of the 3 questions. .	Sep. 22
Materials and Procedure: You will have a complete list of materials required for your science fair project which has been reviewed by 2 of your peers and signed off. You will also have a complete detailed procedure of how you plan to carry out your experiment, this will also be reviewed and signed off by two of your peers.	Oct. 2-3
Hypothesis: You will submit a hypothesis where you discuss your prediction to either the explanation of your scientific phenomenon or possible solution to your engineering based problem. To support your reasoning you will reference the information that you included in your Review of Literature.	Oct. 6
Review of Literature Draft: You will have completed a review of literature draft that includes an introduction and conclusion and body paragraphs that give background knowledge regarding your topic you will reference your research resources due prior in this text.	By Oct. 11-12
Data Tables: You will submit templates of tables that you will use to collect your data for your experiment.	Oct. 13
COMPLETED Experiment Data Tables: You will submit data tables with your experiment result data. This means that you have ALREADY COMPLETED YOUR EXPERIMENT at this point. All graphs and tables must be typed.	Oct. 30-31
Science Fair Powerpoint: This powerpoint will include all parts of science fair project that will be posted on the science fair project board and will be included in your final research paper. Your Powerpoint will also include your conclusion. -Conclusion: You will have had time to review your results and have formed a conclusion based on your data, you will also have to revisit your hypothesis to evaluate your prediction, and also list some next steps for possibilities for your project.	Nov. 6-7
Research Paper: This research paper will include the following things formatted and titled in one document/ packet: Purpose, Review of Literature, Hypothesis, Materials, Procedure, Data/ Results in table form and graph forms, Data Analysis, Conclusion/ Reflection	Nov. 17
Science Fair Project Board: You will be given time in class to work on your board. If you do not finish during the given class time you must complete your board at home by the due date. Your science fair board needs to include: Title, Purpose, Hypothesis, Materials, Procedure, Data/ Results in table form and graph forms, Data Analysis, Conclusion/ Reflection	Dec. 1
Science Fair Project in class presentations: You will present your project to classmates and teacher in classroom	Dec. 4-7
Coonley Science Fair: Event will be in multi-purpose room parents viewing times will be sent home at a later date	Dec. 8