



# GIS Science Fair

Create your own science project and share it at school

## What is a Science Fair?

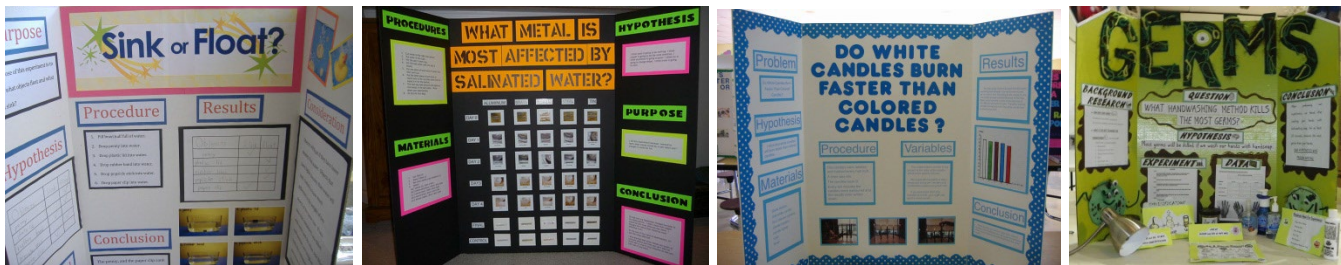
Students from 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade select their own science project, work either alone or together with a friend, conduct the experiment at home, create a presentation on a tri-fold presentation board, and bring it to school to explain the experiment to other students in the elementary school, upper school and teachers.

## What are some examples of Science Fair projects?

- Have you ever watched ants carrying bits of food? What food from your kitchen do you think an ant likes most?
- How long does it take ice to melt at room temperature compared to a warm stovetop or the refrigerator?
- What happens when saltwater from the ocean evaporates?
- Can you learn to predict the weather from the clouds?
- Can you use a magnet to find traces of iron in food, dollar bills, and other household materials?
- Why does a balloon stick to the wall after you rub it against your shirt?

## How does the GIS Science Fair work?

Our GIS 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade Science Fair will take place on Friday, March 21, 2025 during school hours. Students who choose to participate will display their science, technology, engineering or math project for fellow students and families. Participation is optional. Students may work with a partner or work alone. The presentation may be completed in German or in English. Information and resources for preparing your Science project are attached.



## Science Fair Registration Form

Please complete and return to homeroom teacher by Friday, January 17, 2025

PERMISSION: I give my child permission to participate in the GIS Science Fair on March 21, 2025. I understand that my child will miss class in order to present his/her science project at the fair. I understand that photographs of my child participating in the Science Fair may appear on the GIS website, newsletter, or yearbook.

Student's name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Partner's name (optional) \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Parent cell phone \_\_\_\_\_

Parent email address \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Questions? Corinna Guerriere [cguerriere@gisny.org](mailto:cguerriere@gisny.org)



## GIS Science Fair

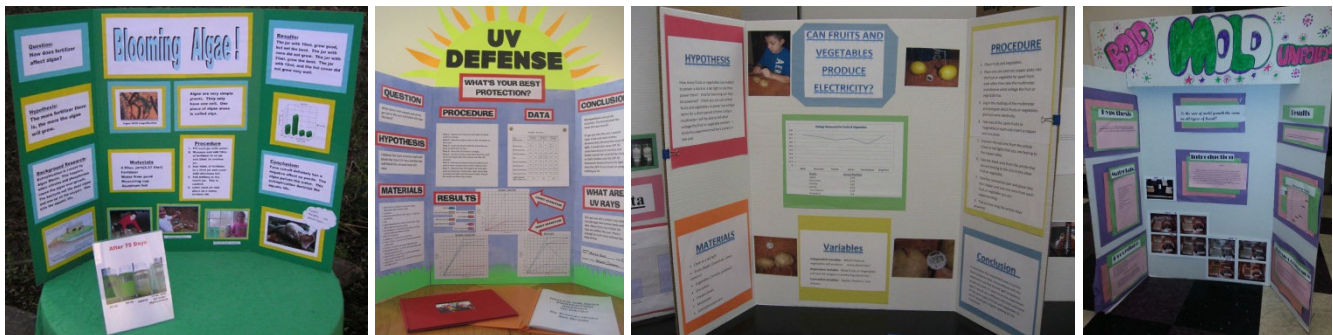
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### Important Dates

Friday, January 17, 2025	<b>Science Fair Registration Form due</b> to homeroom teacher. Every participant needs to fill out a registration form, even when working as a group
Friday, January 31, 2025	<b>Meeting in auditorium</b> during recess at 10:05 for registered students. Written <b>Project Proposals</b> are due. <b>Presentation boards</b> will be distributed
Friday, March 21, 2025	<b>Science Fair takes place during school hours. Set up before school starting at 8:15am.</b>

### What are the guidelines?

- If you are doing an onsite experiment, you must be able to repeat it multiple times throughout the fair
- Candy, food and other giveaways may not be distributed at the Science Fair
- Please no: live animals, open flames, toxic or hazardous chemicals, explosions
- Your proposal may be rejected or modified if it is thought to be unsafe or inappropriate for school



### How can parents help with Science Fair projects?

Parents can help by providing support, but without actually doing the work. What can parents do?

1. **Get Information** Ask your child about the project and the steps needed to complete it
2. **Provide a Space** Find a safe place for your child to work and to store the project
3. **Plan** Help your child make a plan to complete the necessary steps on time
4. **Gather Supplies** Have your child make a list of the tools and supplies needed for the project, then help locate those items around the house (or go shopping, if necessary)
5. **Pack and Carry** When the project is complete, help your child pack it carefully and bring it to school
6. **Volunteer** Help out at school on the day of the Science Fair

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# How to Prepare a Science Fair Project

**1. Select a Topic:** Think about something you are curious about - - plants, animals, electricity, the environment, machines, computers, astronomy, math, medicine, psychology, geology (rocks), etc.

Maybe there is something you have always wondered, like what causes rain? What animal migrates farthest? What causes rainbows? Where did the sun and its planets come from? What makes a magnet attract some metals but not others? Your natural curiosity could lead to a great scientific discovery.

Maybe there is an interesting scientific experiment you could demonstrate, like disappearing ink, weights and balances, objects that float vs. objects that sink? Maybe there is an engineering idea that you could model, like a pulley or a catapult?

There are hundreds, probably even thousands of possibilities for a good Science Fair project. Some websites to explore for inspiration are:

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

<http://www.education.com/science-fair/>

<http://www.sciencefairadventure.com/>

**2. Research and Prepare:** Depending on your project, you will need to gather information and/or materials. Use a variety of sources, including books, websites, magazines and your own experiences. Consider speaking to experts and professionals such as teachers, scientists, engineers or others who may be able to inform you on your topic. *For additional guidance, ask to make an appointment to speak to your teacher during recess or lunch, and discuss your project with your teacher.*

**If you are doing an experiment use the Scientific Method:**

- **PROBLEM** (I wonder) What question are you asking?
- **HYPOTHESIS** (I think) What do you think the answer will be?
- **EXPERIMENT** (I do) Design your experiment to test your hypothesis. Write down what you see happening. Record your observations. List the steps you took to conduct your experiment. Present the information in graphs, tables, photographs, etc.
- **INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS** (I understand) Think about and study the data. What does it mean? Did the results support your hypothesis?
- **CONCLUSION** (I found out) What did you learn? Your conclusion should be based upon the data collected in your experiment. Was your hypothesis correct? What did you learn from your experiment?

**For a Demonstration, Collection or Research project:**

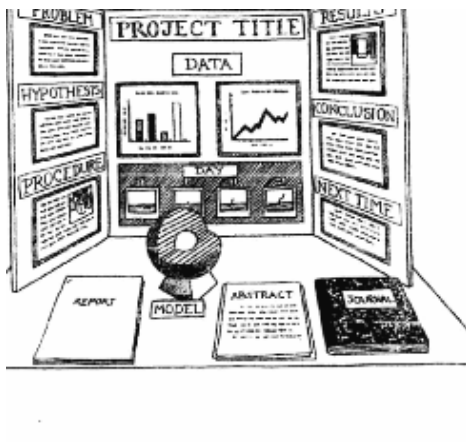
- Decide what you want to show people about your chosen topic.
- Record your data in tables, graphs or charts to organize your information.
- Use photographs, pictures, and models.

### 3. Prepare Project Display and Presentation.

You need to prepare a display board that explains your project. If applicable, your experiment can be conducted at the fair. Models or other displays may also be presented. You will also need to prepare and rehearse a 1-2 minute presentation about your project. Any demonstrations you plan to conduct need to fit into this time.

For your display board, the title and heading should be neat and large enough to be read at a distance of about 3 feet. A short title can be eye –catching. Print or precut letters and glue them to the board or use a stencil.

Here is an example of a display board:



#### WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR IN YOUR PROJECT?

**A. Scientific Thought:** Did you explain the scientific principle or research behind your idea? Is your work organized and accurate? Did you use the Scientific Method for experiments?

**B. Thoroughness:** Does your display show all of your work? Did you include charts, tables, graphs, drawings or photographs? Did you write note cards and practice your oral presentation? Did you include a summary?

**C. Skill:** Is your display or project well made? Did you build, or draw, or photograph your work? Did you make your own graphs and pictures to show your research? Can you describe your project when students, teachers and parents visit your table?

**D. Clarity:** Does your display and report clearly explain what you did? Is it neat, organized and easy to read? Did you write in full sentences and spell words correctly? Did you label and explain the pictures, graphs and other information?

**E. Creative Ability:** Did you come up with your topic on your own or find it in a book or internet site? Did you make your project or buy a kit? Did you find an unusual and interesting way to express your ideas on your display?

**F. Presentation:** Were you well prepared to explain your project and conclusions? Did you explain your project clearly in the time allotted (1-2 minutes)? Did you refer to your display (board and other materials)?

## THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE GIS SCIENCE FAIR!

If you have questions about selecting a topic, conducting an experiment or preparing your presentation, you may discuss this with your teacher at a time that is convenient for them.



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## Project Proposal – Due January 31, 2025

Hand in during the Science Fair meeting in the auditorium during recess at 10:05

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Partner's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher \_\_\_\_\_  
(optional)

My/Our Science Fair topic is \_\_\_\_\_

The question I/we will answer is \_\_\_\_\_

Materials I/we will need (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

The sources (interview expert, books, internet, etc.) I/we will use to gather information are:

\_\_\_\_\_

My/our timeline for completing the project is approximately:

Date

\_\_\_\_\_ Complete research

\_\_\_\_\_ Gather materials

\_\_\_\_\_ Finish conducting experiment

\_\_\_\_\_ First draft of oral presentation

\_\_\_\_\_ Complete presentation board

March 21, 2025 Science Fair during school hours

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