



Dear Parents of Richland Elementary School 3rd Graders,

RES PTO is pleased to sponsor the 13th Annual Discovery Fair (formerly the Science Fair) for third graders, taking place during Open House on March 3 and March 5.

The Discovery Fair is an exciting opportunity for students to explore a topic of interest through research, creativity, and problem-solving. Projects may include science experiments, STEAM challenges, inventions, historical figures, cultures, or other areas of discovery that spark curiosity and learning. Participation is completely voluntary.

Both Special Interest and Experimental Projects are welcome. Videos were shown to your child at school explaining the difference between these two types of projects and examples of both types were provided. Worksheets are available on the PTO website to help guide you and your child if they choose to participate. Additionally, you will find links to a number of websites with project ideas that you and your child may find helpful. Please visit

<https://richland.pinerichland.org/parent-resources/pto/3rd-grade-science-fair> to view this information. A "help desk" is available for your child at school for more personal guidance from our committee volunteers with planning, data analysis, and poster preparation. The "help desk" will begin the week of January 26th and will run for two weeks during indoor recess. We hope your child will take advantage of this assistance.

The PTO will be providing, free of charge, the tri-fold display board for the poster and each registered child will receive his/her display board by mid February. A poster showing your child's work should be **turned in by Friday, February 27th**.

The important thing to remember is that the Discovery Fair is meant to be a fun and interesting learning experience for your child. Low-key basic projects are generally best. Don't worry if you haven't created a project before – anyone can do it! Our Discovery Fair will not be judged and the projects are meant to be fun, student driven projects. We encourage you to work with your child, but to let them be "in charge". The fair is fun and exciting and we have seen in previous years how excited and proud the students are to show off their poster to their classmates and teachers. Our hope is that your child will want to be a part of the fair and complete a project for exhibition.

All children interested in participating must submit registration through a [Google Docs Link](#) found on the [RES PTO website](#). Registration helps us plan the event and ensure that we have a sufficient number of tri-fold displays for our participants. Registration is due by February 9th. Our hope is that each child gains confidence and satisfaction from successfully completing their project and has fun sharing what they learned with their classmates!

Please contact us if you have any questions about the Discovery Fair or project development and check the [RES PTO website](#) for further discovery fair news!

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