Wiley Elementary 3rd and 4th Grade Science Fair

April 27, 2017 5:30-7:00pm

Scientist Packet

Please review this Scientist Packet with your parents. The packet provides information on how to successfully complete your science project. **Do not lose this packet as it contains all the information you will need for your final project.**

What is the Wiley Elementary Science Fair? The science fair is an exhibit of science projects that students have done themselves. Adults and other students will be viewing your project. **This project and its parts are part of the student's science grade.** There are 6 sections in this project, each being graded as a separate assignment.

ALL PROJECTS MUST BE COMPLETED AT HOME BEFORE THE SCIENCE FAIR!

This project is mandatory and all students will be participating. You have 2 months to complete this project. You may work individually or in groups of 2 students from the same class. Make sure that you and your partner will be able to meet at least once a week outside of school.

Can my parents help?

Yes, by all means. **But your parents should not do the project for you or do your science thinking for you.** They can help you select your topic, build your display, gather materials, and figure out ways to organize things. It's fun to include your family in this way! Siblings may help as well.

Things to Remember!

1. Be Safe! Make sure you have permission from, and are supervised by an adult at all times.
2. Your project should be school appropriate.
3. No open flames or animals at the presentation.
4. Running water will not be available
5. Electrical outlets will not be available.
6. Batteries must be closed-cell; no bare electrical wiring is allowed.
7. Use of chemicals and materials that could poison, or materials or methods otherwise potentially dangerous, are subject to adult supervision and pre-approval by Mrs. Suggs.
8. HAVE FUN!

Tips for Participants

- Pick something that is interesting to you, something you want to know more about.
- Please, NO baking soda volcanoes or models. While these are fun, they do not constitute an experiment.
- **If you need ideas for a project, go to www.mrssuggs.com and click on the "Science Fair" link. There are literally thousands of ideas for projects listed.** You do not have to pick one of these and are encouraged to design your own experiment if you so desire.
- No matter what kind of project you choose, you will keep a written record of what you did. Each section will be due on a given date. (The record/schedule is attached to this packet.)

Tips for Parents

HELP your child with writing the record/schedule, if needed. If needed, have your child dictate what she/he wants to say. Avoid putting your words into your child's mouth.
HELP your child acquire the materials.
OFFER to take your child to libraries or other places where she/he can get information during the research phase. You can also help your child contact people who may be able to provide additional information. There are also many resources available at www.MrsSuggs.com
LISTEN if your child wants to talk through his/her ideas. Communicate to your child the message, "I'm interested in what you are doing." Give honest feedback in a positive way.
HAVE your child take necessary safety precautions. Don't let him/her do anything dangerous.
HELP your child construct a realistic time frame for completion. Due dates for each section are printed on
the record/schedule.
OFFER assistance in transporting project materials to and from school.
CONTACT Mrs. Suggs if you have any questions.
INSIST that your child does his/her own work. It is not your project. Give your child room to make mistakes. After all, that is part of the learning process. If the project seems too hard, help them select one they can handle rather than bailing them out by doing it for them.

If you have any questions, please contact me at
marina.suggs@uticak12.org
We are looking forward to seeing what this year's young scientists are ready to show us!

Name:_____
Name of Partner (if any):_____
Teacher:_____
Grade (circle one): Third Fourth

Science Project Record and Schedule

(If you need more paper, please staple it to this packet)

1**. Stating the Problem - The Big Question** (What do you want to find out? Include information about what you know about the question.)

Due date: March 10

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Teacher Signature_____Date:_____

2. **Forming a Hypothesis - A Smart Guess** (What do you think will happen?) **Due date: March 17**

Teacher Signature_____Date:_____

3. **Planning the Procedure** (How will you complete the experiment?)

Due date: March 24

List of materials (what did you use to complete the experiment)

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Step-by-step description of experiment (What did you do with your materials to complete the experiment?)

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Teacher Signature_____Date:_____

4. **Results** (What happened when you did your experiment? Please include charts, tables, or graphs to record the results of your experiment.) **Due date: <u>April 31</u>**

Teacher Signature_____Date:_____

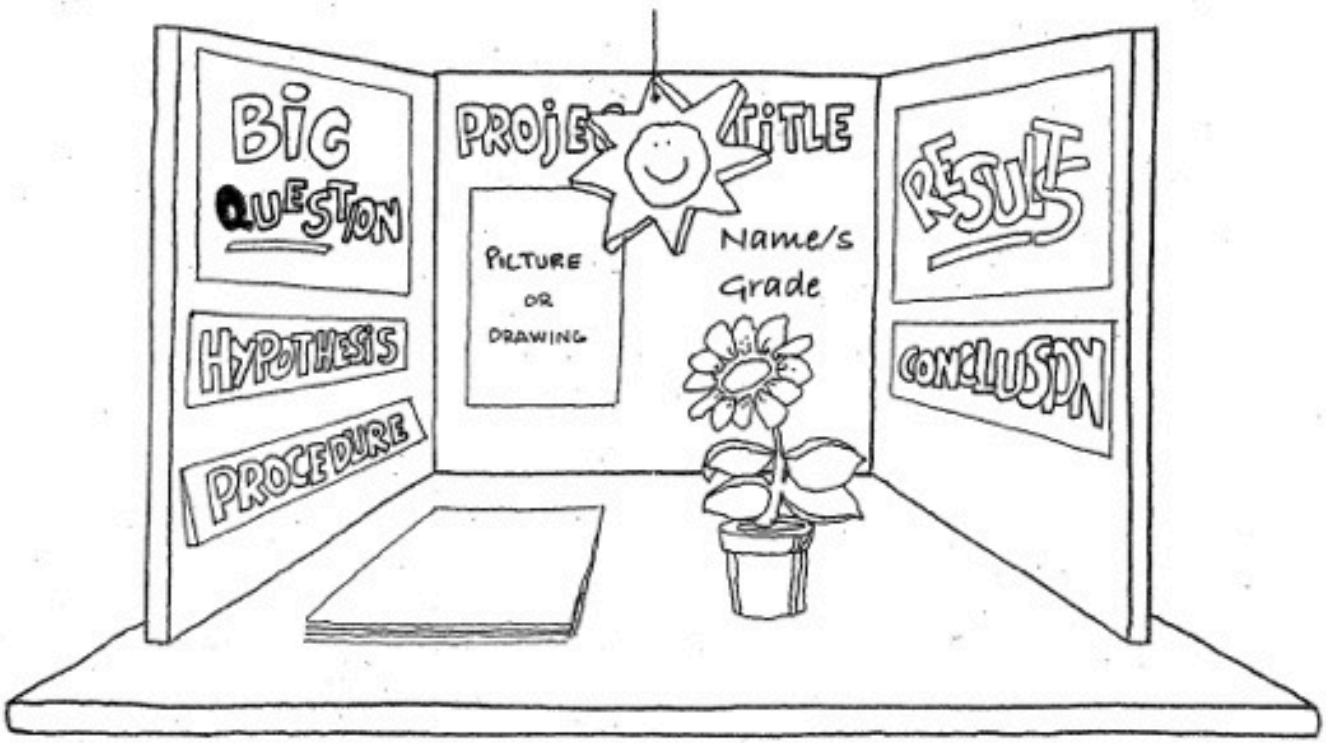
5. **Making a Conclusion** (What did you learn from your scientific investigation? Did you get a different result than you thought you would in your hypothesis? If you did, why do you think that was? Were there any unexpected results?) **Due date: <u>April 13 (This is a Thursday)</u>**

Teacher Signature_____Date:_____

6. **Display** (This will be your final poster board display.)
Due date: <u>April 27, 2017</u>

Displaying Your Project

Your display is a way of sharing what you have learned. A neat, attractive, colorful display with a "catchy" title will grab people's attention. You've spent a lot of time and energy on your research project. Take the time to do a good job on your display.



What Should Be Displayed?

The center board of your display is reserved for the title. Many people use their Big Question for the title, but it is often better to try and catch peoples' attention with a snappy title. The other space on the display should include the hypothesis, procedure, results in the form of charts and graphs, and your conclusion. **Your board MUST include your names and Grade level.**

Color and Lettering

If your backboard needs painting, use attractive colors with contrasting letters. The lettering for the titles should be large and bold. Using stencils instead of drawing freehand will make your display neat and attractive. You may wish to stencil letters on construction paper, cut them out and attach them to the backboard with glue or tape.