

Why Zion has a Science Fair

Introduction to our Science Fair

The scientific process, like many of the concepts we learn in school, can be explained by reading a textbook, by answering questions on a worksheet, by listening to a teacher, and by watching a video. However, these methods of learning don't often give the full picture. The human mind often learns better through researching, creating, discovering, and explaining. Our hope is that through our Science Fair, you will learn a great deal about your particular chosen subject, but also a great deal about how Science works. We hope that you are inspired to discover more about Science, and challenged to expand your knowledge.

Science is fluid--our Science Books are frequently changed, revised, and updated as new information supercedes, replaces, or negates previous knowledge. You have the opportunity in this Science Fair to become a real expert in whatever subject you choose. A well-chosen project just might change what we think about the world God made for us. We also hope that you become a master of the process itself--how to perform accurate and informative scientific research. Along the way, you'll learn how to write reports, how to work through the Scientific Method, and how to synthesize all of your work.

Your final results will be in three parts. One: a Written Report, which might be the longest school assignment you've ever had. (Bigger ones are coming as you proceed through our school, and through high school, and hopefully through college. This is great preparation!) Two: an Oral Presentation to your class, which might be a little nerve-wracking, but which will prepare you for more public speaking in the future. Three: a Display Board which will bring together all that you learned into one visual.

Your teachers have a huge amount of resources available to help you, and would love for you to choose a project that is challenging, interesting, and fun. This year, we have two new aspects to our Science Fair. One is that in addition to being graded by your Science and Language Arts teachers, your project will be evaluated by independent judges. The judges will determine winners, who will receive prizes for their effort. The second addition to this year's fair is that these winners will also be eligible to participate in the Washington State Science and Engineering Fair, will take in place in Bremerton on March 30 and 31, 2012. Our hope is that instead of choosing a safe, easy project, that you will honestly challenge yourself, and go above and beyond the requirements in our paperwork.

If you have any questions about any aspect of our Science Fair, please contact us individually, or call the school office at (425) 334-5064.

In Christ,

Zion's 6th through 8th Grade Teachers