

Parents of Science Fair participants at Lehi Elementary –

The Science Fair is two weeks away, and hopefully your student is thinking seriously about how to put their project together. Here is some very important information to help you in guiding them:

- The fundamental steps of a science fair project are: 1) Ask a Question, 2) Do Background Research, 3) Construct a Hypothesis, 4) Test Your Hypothesis by Doing an Experiment, 5) Analyze Your Data and Draw a Conclusion, and 6) Communicate Your Results on Your Project Board. This was communicated to them at the kick-off assembly, but please re-iterate the steps they need to complete.
- Students' projects will be judged on their merits and in comparison with other students of their same grade. There will be 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes awarded in each grade (4th through 6th), with trophies and prizes accompanying each. If you want specific information as to how they will be judged or ways in which individual projects can excel, please see below.
- A copy of the original registration form is on the school's website at http://lehi.alpineschools.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/SCI_FAIR.pdf. Don't forget the rules listed under the Announcement section of the school's website as well. There are many links providing ideas and guides listed on the back side of that original instruction form, but one of the most helpful is sciencebuddies.org.
- Students can set up projects the afternoon of Thursday the 28th, from 2:30 to 3:30, or from 8 to 9 a.m. the morning of Friday the 29th. Students need to take down projects at 2:25 Friday afternoon, quickly, so that they can attend the awards ceremony (to which you are invited) at 2:30 and take their projects home with them at the end of the school day. You can help, if necessary.
- You are encouraged to bring family members and friends to view all of the projects at the fair from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. the day of the fair. Judging will take place after that.
- Let your kids know that there are trophies to be won, as well as great science prizes from Country Loft, Clark Planetarium, Mad Science, and others.
- Please email Jamie Moesser at jmoesser@hotmail.com if you have any questions, or are available to volunteer during any portion of the fair.

The students will be judged on how well they:

- presented a question that can be answered through research and/or observation that the student did not know the answer to already.
- created a plan for how their question would be answered.
- used at least 2 sources of background information (books, internet, magazines, etc.) relevant to their question.
- followed their plan of research and/or observation. The student recorded all their research, observations and thoughts in a lab book.
- drew conclusions from well-organized research or observation notes.
- related research and observations back to the original question.
- identified clearly and explained key scientific concept(s) relating to the research/observation.
- learned something new.
- prepared a project board that shows the students questions(s), how they found answers, and their answers and conclusions? Did the student use a pleasing display that showcases the project and highlights the results? (Title, Question, Results) Are the important points of the project easy to find and read? Was the student able to clearly explain their project and what they learned?