

The Monterey Ridge 1st Annual Science Fair

We are thrilled to announce the 1st Annual MRES Science Fair. The Fair is open to all MRES students. Please read the rules and guidelines in this packet. The **registration form at the bottom of this page must be attached to the FRONT (not the back) of your project** in order to enter the Science Fair.

Each participant will receive a certificate and six students, one per grade level (K-5th), will earn First Place ribbons. There will also be 3 Honorable-Mention ribbons per grade level; one per category of science. A few students will also be selected for Dr. Newman's Principal Award. If you still have questions after reading these instructions, please contact Dr. Newman. Have fun while you expand your knowledge, and we'll see you at the fair!

Date: Thursday, January 28, 2010

Where: The MRES MPR

When: Set up your project beginning at 8:00 AM on the day of the fair. Projects will not be accepted for judging after 9:00 AM. Family and friends may view the projects that evening from **5:30 - 7:00 PM**. Projects are expected to remain at school during that time so they may be viewed by all parents and students. All projects may be taken home Thursday evening at **7:00 PM**.

(Cut here.)

MRES Elementary Science Fair Registration

Please attach to the **FRONT** of your project. Print clearly.

Names for certificates are copied from this form.

Name _____

Grade _____ Teacher _____ Room # _____

My project is in this category:
(Please circle one)

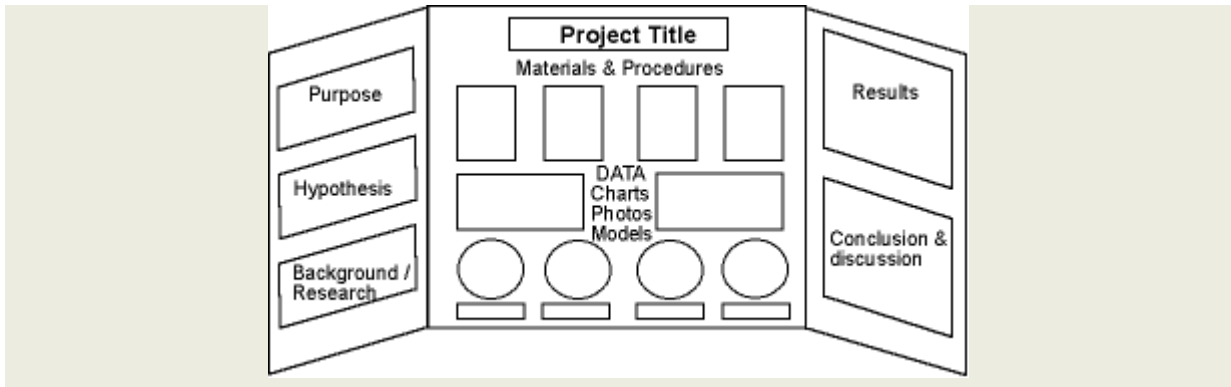
Life
Science

Physical
Science

Earth
Science

Science Fair Guidelines and Rules

- Size Limit: 36 in. high, 24 in. wide, 12 in. deep. (This is a standard display board). It must stand on its own. While a display board works well, is not a requirement. You may also cut a display board across the width and share the other half with a friend. Below is an example of a display board. You, however, do not need to follow the example.



- Choose one of the three categories: Earth Science (geology, meteorology/weather), Life Science (biology, botany, zoology), or Physical Science (chemistry, physics, astronomy – not to be confused with astrology).
- No open flames, dangerous chemicals, or live animals allowed.
- If you need electricity, you must provide your own LONG extension cord. You will be limited to a certain area of the MPR.
- Projects should be completed by the student. (Think of a question you have, and then find the answer through your experiment. Document and keep a record of important information).
- Judges may call students to the MPR if they have a question. Otherwise, the project should explain itself and students will remain in their classrooms during judging.
- Projects are expected to stay in the MPR until 7:00 PM on Thursday evening so that friends and family may view them all.

The Three Science Areas

Choose a science area for your project. Make sure you circle that area on your registration form, which must be attached to the front of your project for judging.

Earth Sciences are concerned with how our planet works and how it came to be the way it is. It includes geology (the study of the earth's crust, rocks, fossils, etc.) and meteorology (the study of weather).

Life Sciences include the study of living things on the earth and their life processes. Biology fits into this category, as does Botany (the study of plants) and Zoology (the science that deals with animals).

Physical Sciences include Chemistry, Physics, and Astronomy (not to be confused with astrology, which is not one of our sciences). These are the most highly developed of the sciences and have a close relationship with mathematics. Physics includes the study of matter, motion, electricity, and magnetism. Astronomy is the study of planets and outer space. Chemistry is the study of properties and reactions of matter, particularly at the level of atoms and molecules.

What is the Scientific Method?

The Scientific Method is what scientists use to learn about things.
It has four major steps:

- ✓ **State the problem.** What is it that you want to find out? *Example: Do plants need sunlight?*

- ✓ **State your hypothesis.** What do you think is going to happen, or how do you think it works? *Example: If two plants are given the same good care, except that one is kept in a dark box, it will not grow as well as one kept outside.*

- ✓ **Record your data.** Write down or take pictures of what happens when you try your experiment. NOTE: Keep track of your data; it will be exciting to see if your guess was right. *Example: Two daisy plants were bought. One was kept in my bedroom window; the other was kept inside a foil covered toy box. Each plant was watered every other day. Each plant was measured every week. After four weeks, the one in my window grew an inch and made three flowers. The other plant shriveled and almost died.*

- ✓ **State your conclusion.** Did what you expect happen? What did you learn? NOTE: Your conclusion should tell us what your data showed you. *Example: Light is very important for plants to grow and bloom.*