

# EL MARINO LANGUAGE SCHOOL 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SCIENCE FAIR Friday, May 29, 2015

- ALL STUDENTS ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SCIENCE FAIR.
- WORK ALONE OR WORK IN GROUPS (with friends or siblings). For groups of 3 or more, please get approval from the teacher.
- DISPLAY YOUR PROJECT IN THE CAFETORIUM during the day of the Fair. Students will be visiting the Science Fair with their classes.
- INVITE YOUR PARENTS TO THE EVENING SCIENCE FAIR: 6-8 pm with hands-on activities, food and fun.
- USEFUL RESOURCES FOR IDEAS AND INFORMATION: internet, school library, local libraries or home.
- READ THE SAFETY RULES IN THIS HANDOUT AND RETURN THE REGISTRATION FORM.
- PARTICIPATION IS OPTIONAL FOR ALL GRADES.
- 4<sup>TH</sup> AND 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE TEACHER STATEMENT: Participation is not mandatory, but is strongly recommended. A student's participation shows self-initiative that exceeds regular class expectations. This self-initiative will be reflected in the student's science grade. Check with your teacher if you have questions.
- START NOW: a good display takes time, thought, and effort.
- HAVE FUN WITH SCIENCE!

**Please return the participant registration form located at the end of this package to your teacher by Friday, May 15, 2015.**

# PLANNING YOUR SCIENCE PROJECT

## ALL GOOD SCIENCE PROJECTS BEGIN WITH A QUESTION.....

- Why are there phases of the moon?
- What is the best way to heat water using just sunlight?
- What are the effects of pollution?
- How does a volcano erupt?
- What do plants need to grow?
- How does electricity work?
- Why does a motor have a magnet?
- What are stars?
- Why do objects float in water?
- How or why does mold grow on food?
- What type of wings makes a paper airplane fly the farthest?
- How does your body digest food?

## IDEA RESOURCES:

- **The internet:** There are many websites that can lead you to exciting information and ideas. Here are a few: [www.education.com/science-fair/](http://www.education.com/science-fair/), [www.sciencebuddies.org](http://www.sciencebuddies.org), [www.sciencenewsforkids.org](http://www.sciencenewsforkids.org), [www.sciencefairadventure.com](http://www.sciencefairadventure.com)
- **The school library:** Science books will be available for you to browse and select an experiment you like. Record your name, classroom number and page of the book that has the experiment you would like to do on the card provided and a photocopy will be delivered to your classroom. The Librarian is happy to help you with this.
- **A local library:** The library has many books containing science demonstrations, projects, and experiments. Look for them in the children's section. The Librarian will be pleased to help you with any questions you might have.
- **California Science Center:** This museum is devoted to science. There are many exhibits that might inspire you to learn and develop ideas that you can explore further as an experiment or project. The museum is located at 700 State Dr. in Exposition Park, next to the Natural History Museum. [www.californiasciencecenter.org](http://www.californiasciencecenter.org)

## **ETHICS AND SAFETY RULES**

**Please abide by these rules**

1. Projects should not cause harm or stress to animals or humans.
2. No live animals at the fair.
3. No body parts (except teeth, hair, and nails) should be displayed.
4. No use of bacteria, drugs, or alcohol.
5. No open fires or flames.
6. No use of dangerous or combustible chemicals (including rocket engine fuel).
7. **ALL LIQUID OR POWDERED SUBSTANCES (INCLUDING HOUSEHOLD OR KITCHEN ITEMS) MUST BE CLEARLY LABELED AND IN CLOSED PLASTIC CONTAINERS.**
8. Projects using electricity must conform to standard wiring practices and have components secured to a piece of plywood, if they are brought to school.
9. Projects using electrical outlets may not be plugged in at school.
10. **NO GLASS.** Use alternative containers, such as plastic ones.

## **GUIDELINES FOR CONDUCTING AN EXPERIMENT**

### **Use the scientific method:**

1. **Question:** What are you curious about? What have you seen that makes you wonder?
2. **Hypothesis:** Make a guess as to what you think is the answer to your question. What might be the reason for your observation? Explain why that is your guess. (A hypothesis is not always right or it may be only partially right – that is how we learn! 😊)
3. **Procedure and Materials:** What will you do to test your predictions? Write an ordered list of all the steps you will take, from beginning to end, to conduct your experiment. Include a list of materials. Modify the lists and take notes as you go along. You may be pleasantly surprised at how much was needed to do your work!
4. **Observations:** Write down what you saw happen while you conducted your experiment. Sometimes things happen that you did not think would occur! Use charts, tables, or graphs. Document with photographs or drawings.
5. **Conclusion:** What happened? Did your hypothesis describe what happened? Did something happen you didn't expect? What did you learn?

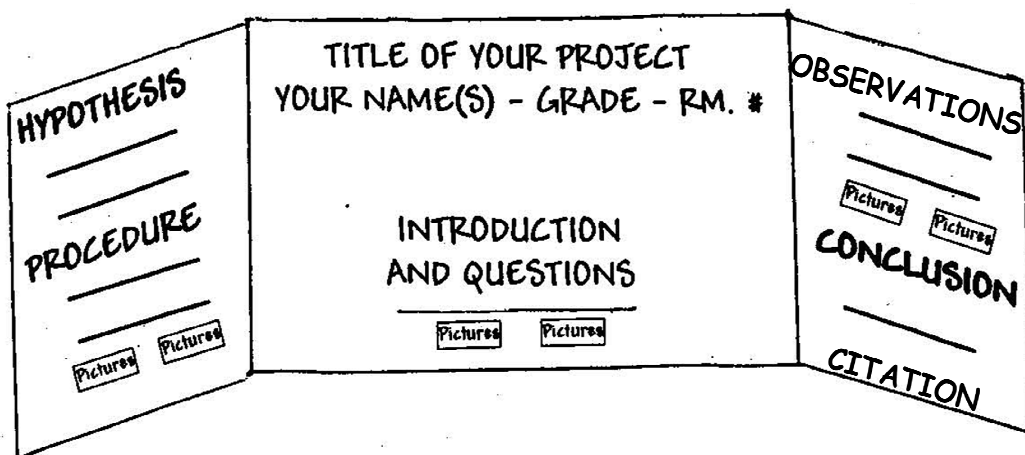
It is OK to have your parents involved to think about ideas or oversee your activities, but remember this should be **YOUR** project. HAVE FUN with it! 😊

## **GUIDELINES FOR MAKING YOUR DISPLAY**

Display boards are preferred. You can purchase display boards at local office supply stores – Cash n’ Carry or Office Depot. You can also cut up a cardboard box to create your own.

1. Please limit the size of your display to the following dimensions. This will allow room to display everyone’s project.
  - Use a standard display board: 48” wide, 32” high, and 16” deep.
  - Otherwise, the dimensions of your project should not exceed 30” in width, 32” in height, and 16” in depth. (30” is the approximate width of display boards when they are set up.)
2. Your display should show how you used the scientific method for your project. A good display catches the viewer’s eye. It explains what you did and what you learned. Include your hypothesis, materials used, procedure, observations, and conclusion.
3. Pictures and graphics can help make your display more interesting to view and easier to understand. You may want to use drawings, pictures and/or photographs. You may also want to use charts, graphs, or tables to show your results.
4. If you place a demonstration, model, or other materials in front of your display board make sure to cover the items or secure them to a base. You won’t want them to go missing!
5. Please leave valuable items at home and represent them with drawings or photographs.
6. **All projects should have a title, name of all students, grade, and list of materials used.**  
**Upper grades: cite the book or internet website where you found your experiment.**

For example:



Save the Date!

## **SCIENCE FAIR: MAY 29<sup>TH</sup>**

### **GUIDELINES**

Projects should be brought to the school cafetorium between 8:00am and 8:40am on Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup>. You will be shown where to display your project.

Projects on display may get moved in order to make room for all displays. Please make your project easy to move.

Projects must be taken home after the family viewing session Friday evening. Projects MAY NOT be left over the weekend.

### **Student Viewing**

**9 am to 3 pm**

### **Family Viewing and Hands-on Activities Fair**

**6 pm to 8 pm**

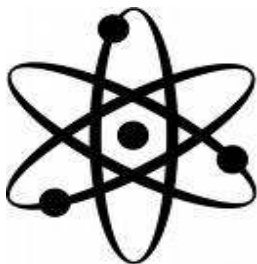
### **QUESTIONS**

Please contact your teacher or the PTA Science Fair Committee

Linda Valachovic: [lvalac@gmail.com](mailto:lvalac@gmail.com)

Marla Corburn: [marlacorburn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:marlacorburn@sbcglobal.net)





**EL MARINO LANGUAGE SCHOOL**  
**20<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SCIENCE FAIR**  
**FRIDAY, MAY 29, 2015**

RETURN TO YOUR TEACHER BY MAY 15, 2015. ONE REGISTRATION FORM PER PROJECT.

<b>Student Registration</b>	<i>I have read and will comply with the Science Fair Guidelines and Ethical and Safety Rules.</i>
Student Name _____	Student Signature _____
Grade ____ Teacher _____	Parent Signature _____
Student Name _____	Student Signature _____
Grade ____ Teacher _____	Parent Signature _____
Student Name _____	Student Signature _____
Grade ____ Teacher _____	Parent Signature _____
Project Title or Topic _____	
Teacher Approval (if a group project) _____	

**FAMILIES ARE INVITED TO VISIT THE SCIENCE FAIR AND ENJOY HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES**  
**FRIDAY, MAY 29 FROM 6 TO 8 PM.**

**VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION**

Parent or 5th grade student volunteers are needed to staff activity tables at intervals during the evening fair. No science experience is necessary. Tasks include helping kids mix safe ingredients to make jelly beans and super bounce putty, handing out samples and supervising kids as they investigate solar-powered toys, magnets, and Minecraft marshmallow engineering. Join in the fun!

Volunteer Name \_\_\_\_\_ Interest \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Method ☐ text ☐ phone ☐ email Contact Info \_\_\_\_\_