

SCIENCE PROJECT HOW TO: CHOICE #2

Choice #2 – Science Presentation

Science Presentations provide an opportunity for students to show what they know or what they have learned. The media in which a student chooses to present his/her information can vary from a report to models and/or diagrams to demonstrations of a scientific principle.

How do I find a project idea?

- **READ** about the different areas of science and engineering for an interesting idea: Geology, Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Astronomy, Paleontology, Computer Science, Mechanical Engineering.
- **CONSIDER WHAT YOU'VE STUDIED IN SCHOOL.** What would you like to further explore-- the solar system, animals, the human body?
- **GO TO THE LIBRARY.** There are many books on science and science projects at the Cedar Mill and Beaverton libraries. You can also check out your local book store.
- **SURF THE INTERNET.** The websites listed on the previous page are excellent.
- **SAMPLE PROJECT IDEAS:**

Create Collections of...

- Sea shells
- Fossils
- Rocks
- Seeds
- Tree bark

Record Observations on...

- recording the weather
- listing insects that live in your yard
- measuring a plant's growth
- life through a microscope
- differences between soils

Build Models of...

- electromagnets
- electric circuit with bell or light
- electric motor
- sundial
- compass & the earth's magnetic field

Perform Demonstrations that show...

- How air expands when warmed
- How a prism works
- Optical illusions
- Uses of a wedge
- Water surface tensions

Write a Report on...

- Phases of the moon
- How lightning is formed
- Types of rock
- Dinosaurs
- How crystals are formed

NOTE: Often times, demonstrations can be turned into experiments by changing one of the variables from known values to unknown values.

Science Presentation Project Display Board

Once you have completed your presentation, you must create a project display board to communicate your work to others. Use a standard, tri-fold display board no larger than 36" tall and 48" wide. Display boards will be sold via the office for a nominal fee. Details will be forthcoming.

Example Presentation Board Layout

<p>IDEA What are you presenting and why did you choose this idea?</p>	<p>TITLE</p>	<p>WOW FACTOR What was the most interesting fact you learned?</p>	
<p>RESOURCES List all resources (books, magazines, websites, "experts", etc.)</p>	<p>Student Name Teacher Name Grade</p>	<p>CONCLUSION * What more do you want to learn? * What's next?</p>	
	<p>DATA</p>		
	<p>picture</p>	<p>picture</p>	<p>picture</p>
	<p>charts, graphs, pictures, photographs</p>	<p>charts, graphs, pictures, photographs</p>	

Science Presentation - Project Planning Guide

	Complete this column with your information	Things to Consider
Idea		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write a short synopsis (summary) of what you are presenting. • Why did you choose this project?
Information		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give supporting data to present your findings. • What's your WOW factor? (i.e. What one piece of information was the most amazing to you?)
Resources		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List all resources – books, magazines, videos, websites, “expert” people you talked to, etc.
Conclusion		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What more do you want to learn about the subject? • What will you do next?
Project Board		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does your display board include (at least) all of the above sections? • Are all sections clearly labeled? • Does the title capture the viewer's attention? • Did you proofread your board? • Do you use pictures, charts, graphs? • Is the text large and neat? • Do you know your board well enough to be able to discuss it and answer questions about it?