

## **Student Summary: Your Project!**

**State your question.** What are you curious about? Turn your topic of interest into a question that you can answer with an experiment, or an engineering problem you can try to solve.

**Form your hypothesis.** Think about what the answer to your question or problem might be and why.

**Plan and perform your experiment.** You will make measurements, collect information (data), or test different solutions to your question or problem.

**Record your methods and your findings.** Use a Project Notebook as a way to keep track of your procedures, observations, and results.

**Prepare your results.** Group and organize the measurements you have made. Make charts, graphs, or tables (you may include photos or drawings) to show what happened.

**Explain your results.** Try to explain how or why the results came out as they did. Do the results agree with your hypothesis?

**Draw Conclusions.** What did your results tell you about the answer to your original question? What did you learn from your experiment in general? What could you improve another time? How could your results apply to everyday experiences?

**Prepare a display** (often a poster) of your project that includes all the information above. Displays should have sections for Question, Hypothesis, Methods, Results, Conclusions and any References used. Photos and other visual aids are great to include if possible!

## Science Fair Dates and Deadlines

Dec 4 Registration opens online; a Project Question is required. Go to this website to register:

<http://goo.gl/forms/sWS1OgiMFz>

Dec1  
4 Registration closes

Have fun working on projects!

Jan  
20 Bring displays of completed projects to school; displays will be set up 4:30 - 7:00 pm

### Jan21 Science Fair!!

Morning judging sessions at school for students; Evening Reception and awards for students, families and friends.

### Prohibited:

Prohibited experiments include those using flames, combustibles, or dangerous materials, bodily fluids or animals that violate Shelton's "No Fur or Feather Policy" towards animals in the school.

No live animals are allowed at the Science Fair; animal projects may include photographs and diagrams.



**You can be a Scientist!**

**Participate in the  
Shelton Elementary Science Fair**



**January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016**

**Science Fair Goals:**

- ∞ To promote science education in all grades by hands-on exploration of scientific principles and processes in a fun, NON-COMPETITIVE environment.
- ∞ To give students a sense of pride and accomplishment derived from planning and completing their projects, solving problems, presenting their findings to others, and participating in the science fair community event.
- ∞ To foster a lifelong appreciation of science and engineering.

**Getting Started:**

Think about what interests you. Try to formulate a question that you would like to answer. Plan how to collect the information to get the answer! Find any equipment, supplies, helpers, mentors, and other resources you will need to complete your project in the time available before the Science Fair!

**Sample Questions:**

- ∞ How does something work? What could work better? Why?
- ∞ Make a surprising observation and try to explain it!
- ∞ What would happen if I change something?
- ∞ What could I measure, count, or observe to answer my question?

- ∞ Apply your curiosity and scientific mind to food, toys, human or animal behavior, plants, liquids, gases, physics, appliances – anything in the world around you.

### **Websites:**

Many websites have information about science and experiments. A general resource for science fairs is <http://www.sciencebuddies.org/>

**If you use this (or any) website, say so on your display!** It can help you understand the scientific process, but we encourage Shelton students to use your OWN unique ideas and methods in your experiments!

### **Project Requirements:**

All project work must be done at home under adult supervision.

Two students may work together as a team to complete a single project, but each needs to register (link on p1.)

All projects (K-6) must include:

- ∞ Project Display
- ∞ Oral Presentation
- ∞ Project summary/report

**Project notebooks** & other info are at: <http://www.sheltonptsa.org/science—engineering-fair>

### **Parent Responsibilities & Resources:**

Parent approval is required to register (see link p1.) Parent supervision and general support of students as they complete their projects is important for a successful science fair experience. However, students should be the primary investigators! Our judges will be looking for evidence of original, independent investigations! **If students or parents have any questions, any time, contact the committee and we can help:**

<https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/shelton-elementary-science-fair>

**Jenny Briggs** ([jennybriggs@gmail.com](mailto:jennybriggs@gmail.com))

**Rob Schein** ([schein@comcast.net](mailto:schein@comcast.net))

**Christen Johnson** ([sandcjohnston@gmail.com](mailto:sandcjohnston@gmail.com))

**Tanja Rauch-Williams** ([tanjarauch@gmx.net](mailto:tanjarauch@gmx.net))

### **What happens at the Science Fair?**

Completed projects are brought to school to be set up in the gym the evening of Jan 20, 2016.

Thursday Jan 21, **Science Fair Day**, has 3 parts:

1. In the morning, each student who did a project will be individually escorted from their classroom to the gym to describe their project to our judges for about 15 minutes.
2. Mid-day, each class will tour all the projects with their teacher. This highlights the great work of each student scientist for the entire school!
3. In the evening, all students, families and friends are invited to a reception. View the projects, exchange discoveries and stories, meet many of the judges, and participate in an award ceremony that recognizes outstanding projects, original ideas, and creativity of science and presentation across all the grades. More information on the reception in January!

Our science fair is run by volunteers. If you can help, please contact the committee and/or sign up at <http://www.sheltonpta.org/science—engineering-fair>