

GISNY Virtual Science Fair

Create your own science project and share it with our school community

What is a Virtual Science Fair?

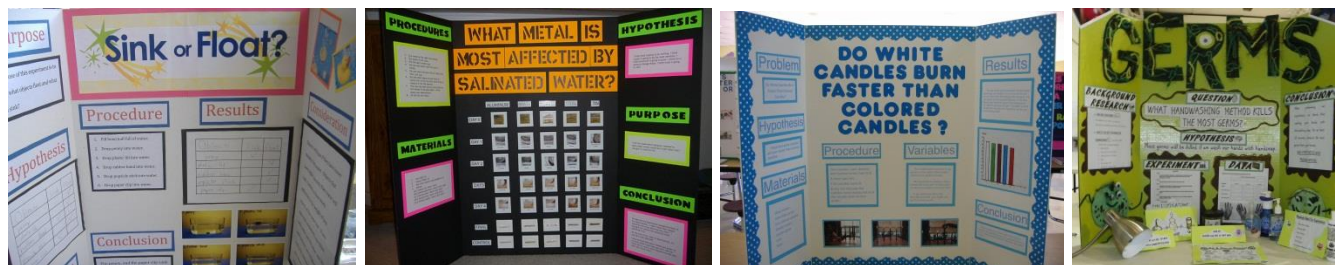
Students from 1st to 5th grades select their own science project, work either alone or together with a friend, conduct the experiment at home, create a presentation on a tri-fold presentation board, and have someone film a 2-3 minute long video explaining the experiment. Send the videotaped presentation via email to coguerriere@gmail.com.

What are some examples of Science Fair projects?

- Have you ever watched ants carrying bits of food? What food from your kitchen do you think an ant likes most?
- How long does it take ice to melt at room temperature compared to a warm stovetop or the refrigerator?
- What happens when saltwater from the ocean evaporates?
- Can you learn to predict the weather from the clouds?
- Can you use a magnet to find traces of iron in food, dollar bills, and other household materials?
- Why does a balloon stick to the wall after you rub it against your shirt?

How does the GIS Virtual Science Fair work?

Our GIS 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th grade Science Fair will take place virtually during the last week of school from June 21 to June 24, 2021. Our school community will be able to access your prerecorded presentation via a secure link. Participation is optional. Students may work with a partner (following social distancing guidelines) or work alone. The presentation may be completed in German or in English. Information and resources for preparing your Science project are attached.



Science Fair Registration Form

Please complete and return to homeroom teacher by Monday, April 26, 2021

PERMISSION: I give my child permission to participate in the GIS Virtual Science Fair. I understand that my child will create a video explaining their science project, which can be accessed by the whole school community via a secure link. If my child works with a partner, social distancing guidelines will be followed during the project and in the video.

Student's name _____ Grade _____ Teacher _____

Partner's name (optional) _____ Grade _____ Teacher _____

Home phone _____ Parent cell phone _____

Parent email address _____ Parent Signature _____

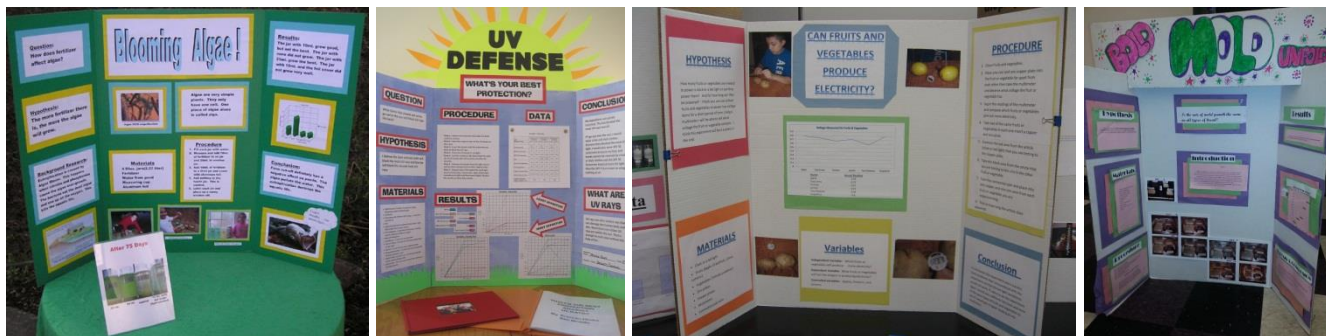


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Important Dates

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| Monday, April 26 | Virtual Science Fair Registration Form due to homeroom teacher. |
| Monday, May 3 | Presentation boards will be distributed to registered children in school. Project Proposal form is due (see attached) to homeroom teacher. |
| No later than Friday, June 11 | Send in your presentation video (2-3 minutes) to coguerriere@gmail.com . You and the presentation board should be clearly visible. |
| Monday, June 21 – Thursday June 24 | Virtual Science Fair: Presentation videos will be shown to classes in school and can be accessed by the school community via our website. |



How can parents help with Science Fair projects?

Parents can help by providing support, but without actually doing the work. What can parents do?

1. **Get Information** Ask your child about the project and the steps needed to complete it
2. **Provide a Space** Find a safe place for your child to work and to store the project
3. **Plan** Help your child make a plan to complete the necessary steps on time
4. **Gather Supplies** Have your child make a list of the tools and supplies needed for the project, then help locate those items around the house (or go shopping, if necessary)
5. **Videotape your child's presentation.**

How to Prepare a Science Fair Project

1. Select a Topic: Think about something you are curious about - - plants, animals, electricity, the environment, machines, computers, astronomy, math, medicine, psychology, geology (rocks), etc.

Maybe there is something you have always wondered, like what causes rain? What animal migrates farthest? What causes rainbows? Where did the sun and its planets come from? What makes a magnet attract some metals but not others? Your natural curiosity could lead to a great scientific discovery.

Maybe there is an interesting scientific experiment you could demonstrate, like disappearing ink, weights and balances, objects that float vs. objects that sink? Maybe there is an engineering idea that you could model, like a pulley or a catapult?

There are hundreds, probably even thousands of possibilities for a good Science Fair project. Some websites to explore for inspiration are:

www.sciencebuddies.com

<http://www.education.com/science-fair/>

<http://www.sciencefairadventure.com/>

2. Research and Prepare: Depending on your project, you will need to gather information and/or materials. Use a variety of sources, including books, websites, magazines and your own experiences. Consider speaking to experts and professionals such as teachers, scientists, engineers or others who may be able to inform you on your topic.

If you are doing an experiment use the Scientific Method:

- **PROBLEM** (*I wonder*) What question are you asking?
- **HYPOTHESIS** (*I think*) What do you think the answer will be?
- **EXPERIMENT** (*I do*) Design your experiment to test your hypothesis. Write down what you see happening. Record your observations. List the steps you took to conduct your experiment. Present the information in graphs, tables, photographs, etc.
- **INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS** (*I understand*) Think about and study the data. What does it mean? Did the results support your hypothesis?
- **CONCLUSION** (*I found out*) What did you learn? Your conclusion should be based upon the data collected in your experiment. Was your hypothesis correct? What did you learn from your experiment?

For a Demonstration, Collection or Research project:

- Decide what you want to show people about your chosen topic.
- Record your data in tables, graphs or charts to organize your information.
- Use photographs, pictures, and models.

3. Prepare Project Display and Presentation.

You need to prepare a display board that explains your project. If applicable, your experiment can be conducted at the fair. Models or other displays may also be presented. You will also need to prepare and rehearse a 2-3 minute presentation about your project. Any demonstrations you plan to conduct need to fit into this time.

For your display board, the title and heading should be neat and large enough to be read at a distance of about 3 feet. A short title can be eye –catching. Print or precut letters and glue them to the board or use a stencil.

Here is an example of a display board:



WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR IN YOUR PROJECT?

A. Scientific Thought: Did you explain the scientific principle or research behind your idea? Is your work organized and accurate? Did you use the Scientific Method for experiments?

B. Thoroughness: Does your display show all of your work? Did you include charts, tables, graphs, drawings or photographs? Did you write note cards and practice your oral presentation? Did you include a summary?

C. Skill: Is your display or project well made? Did you build, or draw, or photograph your work? Did you make your own graphs and pictures to show your research? Can you describe your project when students, teachers and parents visit your table?

D. Clarity: Does your display and report clearly explain what you did? Is it neat, organized and easy to read? Did you write in full sentences and spell words correctly? Did you label and explain the pictures, graphs and other information?

E. Creative Ability: Did you come up with your topic on your own or find it in a book or internet site? Did you make your project or buy a kit? Did you find an unusual and interesting way to express your ideas on your display?

F. Presentation: Were you well prepared to explain your project and conclusions? Did you explain your project clearly in the time allotted (2-3 minutes)? Did you refer to your display (board and other materials)?

THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE GIS VIRTUAL SCIENCE FAIR!

If you have questions about selecting a topic, conducting an experiment or preparing your presentation, you may discuss this with your teacher at a time that is convenient for them.



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Project Proposal – Due May 3, 2021

Name _____ Grade _____ Teacher _____

Partner's Name _____ Grade _____ Teacher _____
(optional)

My/Our Science Fair topic is _____

The question I/we will answer is _____

Materials I/we will need (if any) _____

The sources (interview expert, books, internet, etc.) I/we will use to gather information are:

My/our timeline for completing the project is:

Date

_____ Complete research

_____ Gather materials

_____ Finish conducting experiment

_____ First draft of oral presentation

_____ Complete presentation board

Questions? Corinna Guerriere cguerriere@gisny.org