

JSIS 5th Grade Science Fair General Guidelines

Student name: _____

The JSIS 5th grade science fair will be held on Thursday, March 31, 2016. All students in the 5th grade class are required to do a science project. The following guidelines apply to all participants:

- 1) Students are encouraged to focus their science projects on "Sustainability." This ties in well with the science units they are studying: Land & Water, Ecosystems & Microworlds, and Composting & Recycling.
- 2) Students may work individually or, if approved by the teacher, as a team of two. Note to teams: Working in a team can be a fun way to do a project. You will have to work hard to coordinate who does what, and that each person does her/his fair share. Keep in mind that the judges may expect a little more from a team than they would from an individual in terms of work accomplished. While each member may do a separate part of the project, both students should understand the entire concept for presentation.
- 3) We encourage students to tailor science projects so that no expensive materials need be purchased.
- 4) We realize that a parent may end up building an apparatus that the student is not yet capable of building. That is fine. It is critical, however, that students do the actual investigation, make observations, record the data, and come up with the conclusions based on their own findings. After all, students, not parents, must be able to demonstrate their understanding of the project to the judges.
- 5) Projects may not include the following: exploding soda, excessive liquids (projects with some liquids are okay, but the liquids must be well-contained), animals, fire, high voltage electricity, the mixing of volatile chemicals, or anything noxious/toxic.
- 6) The school will provide a three sided display board (36" high by 48" wide) free of charge. If the original board is lost, the student is responsible for purchasing a replacement. Additional display items—model, collection, etc.—can be placed on the table within the area in front the display board. Original science journals and/or data sheets are encouraged.
- 7) Projects will be set up in the 4th floor corridor starting Monday, March 28th, 2016.
- 8) Presentations are during the school day on Thursday, March 31st. Students will present their work to a local scientist(s) explaining what they have done.
- 9) The family celebration will be in the Cafeteria on the evening of Thursday, March 31st.
- 10) The science fair is a non-scored, non-competitive event. Every student will receive a certificate recognizing their efforts. Students with outstanding projects, based on the judges' and teachers' feedback, will receive a ribbon of merit.

If you have any questions, please email jsis.sciencefair@gmail.com.

Parent Signature

S. Mecking, C. Rousseau, M. Causing
Science Fair Organizers