

# FAQs: *Life Science Fair*

## **1. How do I choose a topic?**

- a. What are your nature related interests?
- b. What can you talk about forever?
- c. Select something that has unexplained or unexpected results.
- d. **Topic Examples:**
  1. How do pinecones make more trees?
  2. Why do the leaves change color in the fall?
  3. Why do apples turn brown?
  4. How do ants know the difference between sugar and artificial sweeteners?
  5. How do owls have a silent flight with their feathers?
  6. Why do butterflies migrate south?

## **2. What if someone else has the same topic as I do?**

- a. That's just fine; there are plenty of categories to talk about for each topic. Choose different ideas to talk about and then you (and the other person with the same topic) have two different presentations.

## **3. Can student's parents help them with their project?**

- a. Essentially, no. This is a life science fair project geared toward students K-12. Parents can help to a small degree; Exp: helping student choose a topic, providing them with required materials, and answering questions.

## **4. What does my project look like?**

- a. Students are expected to have a tri-fold board (can be purchased at Walmart, Target, Staples, AC Moore standard size: 36" by 24").

- b. On the board:
  - i. Photographs and drawings to help audience understand the experiment.
  - ii. Be organized. Every chart, graph and picture should be clearly labeled with titles, headings, units of measure, and sources.
  - iii. Have a ‘shipshape’ title—and make it attention getting. Choose something that is ‘catchy’ yet accurately summarizing of the research.
- c. Project:
  - i. Use the allotted table space in front of the presentation board display to show off the project notebook, research papers, and any appropriate models or examples.

## **5. How do I complete a science fair project?**

- a. Select a topic –be innovative, look for unexplained or unexpected results.
- b. Organize and theorize: Organize your research. Narrow down your hypothesis by focusing on a particular idea
- c. Conduct your experiment: Keep detailed notes of every experiment, measurement and observation.
- d. Examine your Results and draw conclusions: Analyze your data statistically. Did you collect enough data? Do you need to conduct more experiments?
- e. Write up your report.
- f. Present it at TOC!!

**6. What do I include in my presentation?**

- a. Captivate the judge's attention. Proceed through the steps of your research—hypothesis, experiment/research, data end graph, conclusion/ results—don't miss a single detail. Demonstrate to the judges your enthusiasm for your topic; have appropriate body language and smile.

**7. Where can I register:**

- a. Exit out of this page and go back to The Outdoor Campus page—click on registration.

**8. What do all students forget while preparing their project?**

- a. HAVE FUN—from The Outdoor Campus Staff 😊