1st Grade Science Fair Project

Our annual Science Fair is fast approaching! All students are required to participate, and projects will be graded and awards given. This project will also account for a major portion of each student's science grade.

First graders will conduct a simple science demonstration using the scientific method and create a visual tri-fold display board at home, and then talk about their demonstration at school. First grade demonstrations differ from experiments (which 2^{nd} – 7^{th} graders will be doing) in that experiments are multiple trials of the same procedure but use different conditions to compare results.

We will continue practicing the scientific method steps in class and setting up model tri-fold displays. Please make sure students have the appropriate help and materials needed to complete their individual projects at home.

Due dates:

Project proposal/idea due: December 13, 2013 (see next page)
Projects due: January 21, 2014 (see the following pages)

Details:

1. The student chooses a demonstration and has it approved by his/her teacher.
2. The student conducts the demonstration using the basic steps of the scientific method.
3. The student puts together a visual tri-fold display board including the student's question, hypothesis (prediction), steps and materials of the demonstration, the results (photos, graphs, detailed drawings, etc.), and a conclusion.
4. The student makes a short verbal presentation to the Science Fair judges describing his/her demonstration, the results, and what he/she learned.

Ideas:

I've linked a few websites that include a list of demonstrations, directions, background information, and even some videos. Most of them don't require anything "fancy." Please don't let students read or view the supposed results of these demonstrations until after they've tried it – let them be surprised of what happens! **Important – please be sure to discuss the background information listed on these pages with your child so that he/she understands why the results happened as they did!**

http://www.sciencebob.com/experiments/index.php

http://www.stevespanglerscience.com/lab/experiments

Science Project Proposal/Idea
Due Friday, Dec. 13, 2013

Student: _____

Science demonstration I chose (include title and website address):

_____

_____

Parent's Signature: _____

Teacher's Signature: _____

Teacher Comments:

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

1st Grade Science Project Grading Sheet

Student Name: _____

Topic/Demonstration: _____

Part 1 – Display Board	Points Possible	Points Earned
Student's full name (on back)	1	
Project Title	5	
Labeled sections on display board	5	
Photos of student conducting demonstration and results	5	
Accurate and detailed information written by student	9	
Spelling and grammar	5	
Neatness and organization	5	

Total points of display: _____

Part II – Oral Presentation	Points Possible	Points Earned
Knowledge of demonstration and topic	5	
Speaks clearly and can be heard	5	
Doesn't read the display board the entire time – explains the board to the audience instead	5	

Total points of oral presentation: _____

Total points of science project: _____

*Write student's name on back of the tri-fold display board

(Left section)	*(Middle section)*	*(Right section)*
Question - What will happen if……?	**Title** **Materials -** **1.** **2.** **3.** etc.	**Conclusion -** My hypothesis was…..because……
Hypothesis - I think……	**Experiment Steps –** **1.** **2.** **3.** etc. (Include a photo!)	**Results –** Include a photo and a detailed drawing, graph, or measurement, etc.

Name _____ Date_____

Scientific Method Outline/Plan

You will probably need more space to write on – this is just a guide.

Step 1 – Ask a question (write a complete sentence):

What will happen if _____

_____

Step 2 – Make a hypothesis or prediction of what you think will happen (write a complete sentence):

I think _____

_____

Step 3 – Conduct the experiment (or demonstration) to test your hypothesis. Write the steps you did in a list (write complete sentences for each step).

_____

_____

_____

_____

Write the materials needed (just list – does not need to be complete sentences).

Include at least one photo of you conducting the demonstration☺

Step 4 – Draw a conclusion. Was your hypothesis correct? What happened at the end of the demonstration?

My hypothesis was because

Step 5 – Record your results. Draw a detailed, colored picture of what happened, show a measurement, make a graph, etc. Be sure to include a photo of the result☺