

SCIENCE FAIR GOALS

Science teachers have many reasons why we believe the Science Fair is an invaluable experience for our students. Some of the top reasons or goals that we hope our students achieve are:

1. to stimulate interest, curiosity, and desire to explore the mysteries of the world.
2. to learn, understand, and apply the scientific method.
3. to provide real experiences and methods by which all scientific knowledge has been and is still being gathered.
4. to help develop skills in communicating both verbally and in writing.
5. to help develop skills of interpretation and analysis of data.
6. to learn how to complete long range projects.
7. to acquire skills of research using a variety of resources such as the Internet, interviews, books, magazines, etc.
8. to show a connection between what is learned in the class and what happens in real life.
9. to promote unique opportunities for us (teachers) to work individually with you (the student) in an interdisciplinary project.
10. to foster independence in the student by providing the opportunity for you to take initiative and responsibility in studying a topic for your own learning.

FOUR MAJOR COMPONENTS

The science fair project can be divided into four major components or parts.

1. The Experiment:
 1. choosing a topic
 2. performing an experiment
2. The Research Paper:
 1. review literature (research) about your topic and closely related topics
 2. summarize the experiment and draw conclusions from the experiment
 3. write a properly formatted and cited research paper
3. The Visual Display
 1. prepare a backboard that illustrates the complete science project
 2. display equipment and materials needed to explain the project
4. The Oral Presentation
 1. present orally a summary of the project to your teacher, classmates, or judges
 2. share and explain all phases of the project in an open setting