

# Science Fair Workshop

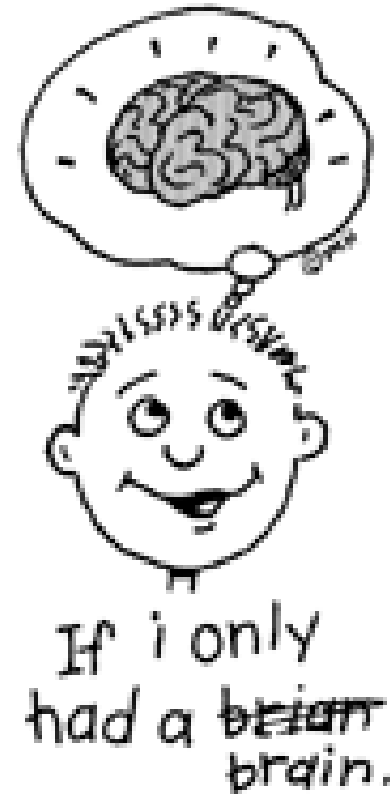
## 2010-2011

*I have not failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work." ...*  
*Thomas Edison*



# Science Fair

- What is science fair?
- Can they work in groups?
- How will my child be graded?
- What are his/her choices?
- Resources available?
- What about outside competitions?
- How does he/she choose a topic?
- How will I know when everything is due?
- Do he/she have to do research?
- What forms are needed?
- How much assistance should I provide?



# What is Science Fair?

- The scientific method is followed to answer a question or solve a problem through experimentation. This project is shared with other students and the community at a middle school science fair.



# Science Fair



- Can he/she work in groups?
- No, all projects are done independently.
- How will he/she be graded?

All students at Orefield and Springhouse will receive the same evaluation rubrics these rubrics are located in the Science Fair notebook.

Due to the marking period schedule changes, the weight of the science fair grade will be one half of the fourth marking period grade.

- What are the available choices?
- There are two options in seventh grade and three options in eighth grade.
- Can my student participate in outside competition?
- Any student in a G/HP class may choose to participate in the Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science competition.

# Choosing A Topic

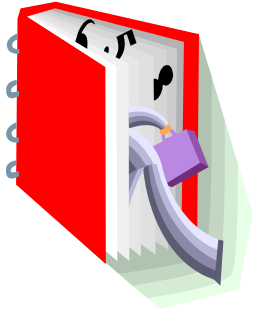
- Your child should choose something that he/she personally cares about.
- They should try to avoid “canned” science fair activities on the internet.
- They should use the library
- They should use the internet as an idea generator and information resource.
- A good place to start is:  
[www.sciencebuddies.com](http://www.sciencebuddies.com)



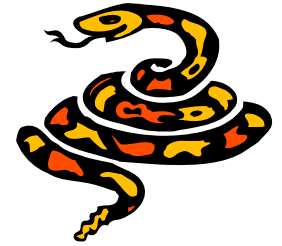
# Is it Necessary to do Research?

A good hypothesis cannot be written without first doing some research. No matter what presentation choice is made, research is an important part of an experimental project.





# Science Fair Binder

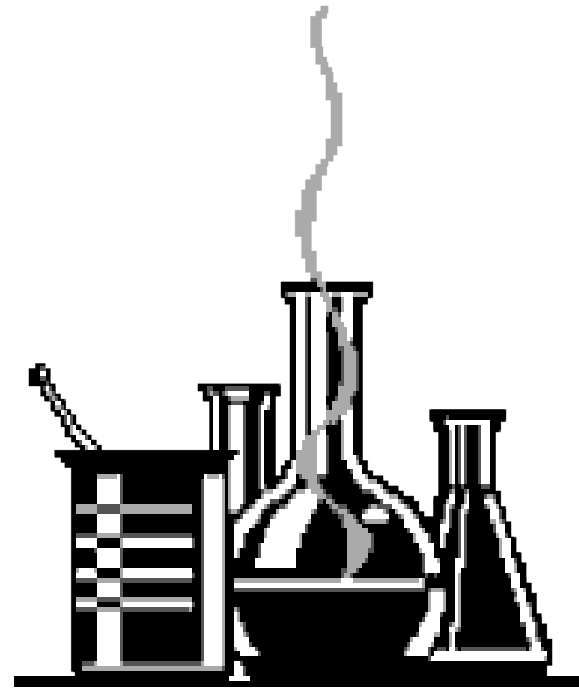


- This is the same as a textbook
- Requires a parent signature on the Parent Form
- This will be returned at the end of the year.
- No papers are to be removed, except for the “Forms” section.
- Students do not write in the book.
- \$20.00 replacement cost if lost or damaged.



# The Choices!

- Display Board
- Oral  
Presentation
- Lab Report  
(8<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Only)

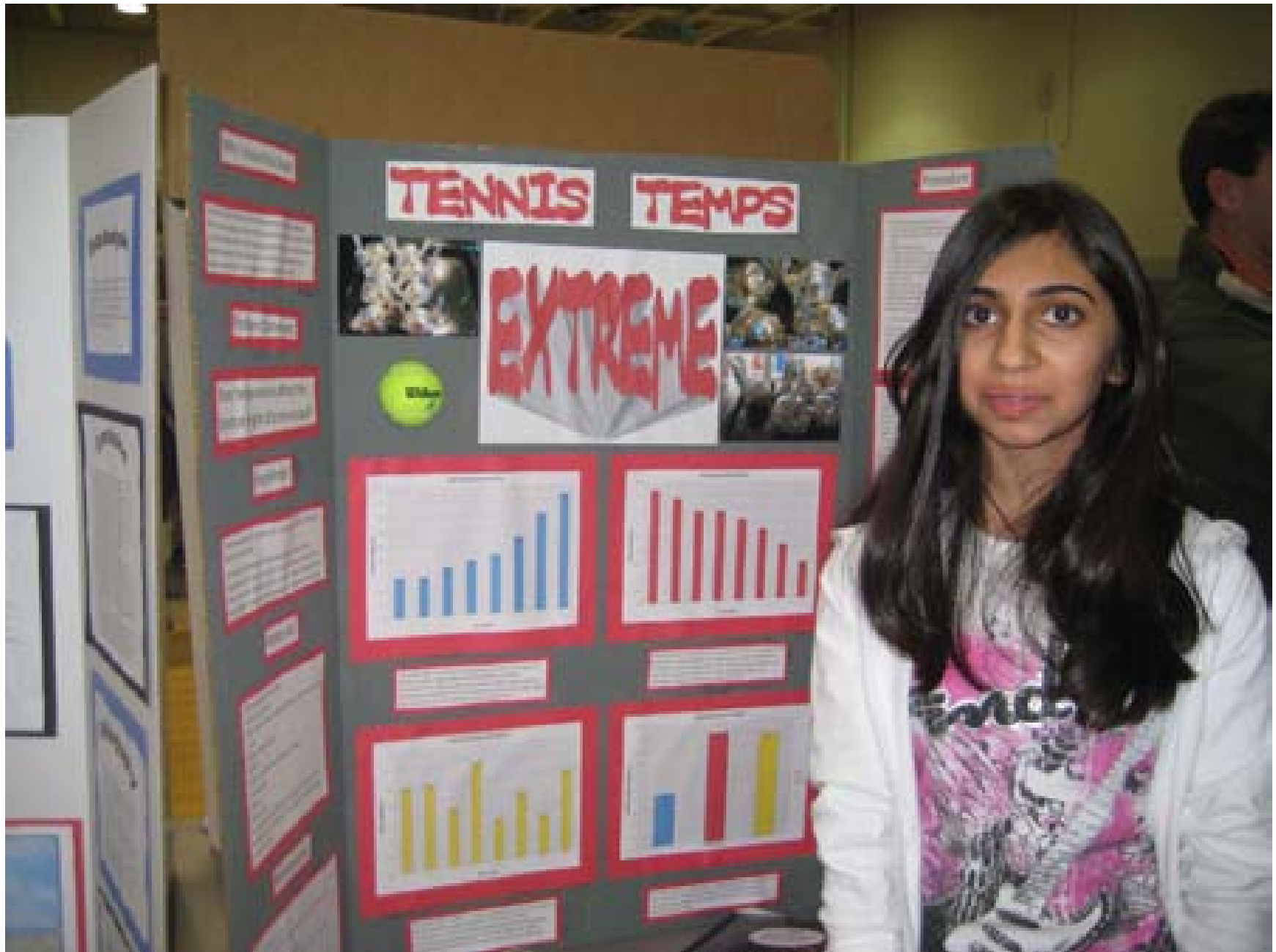


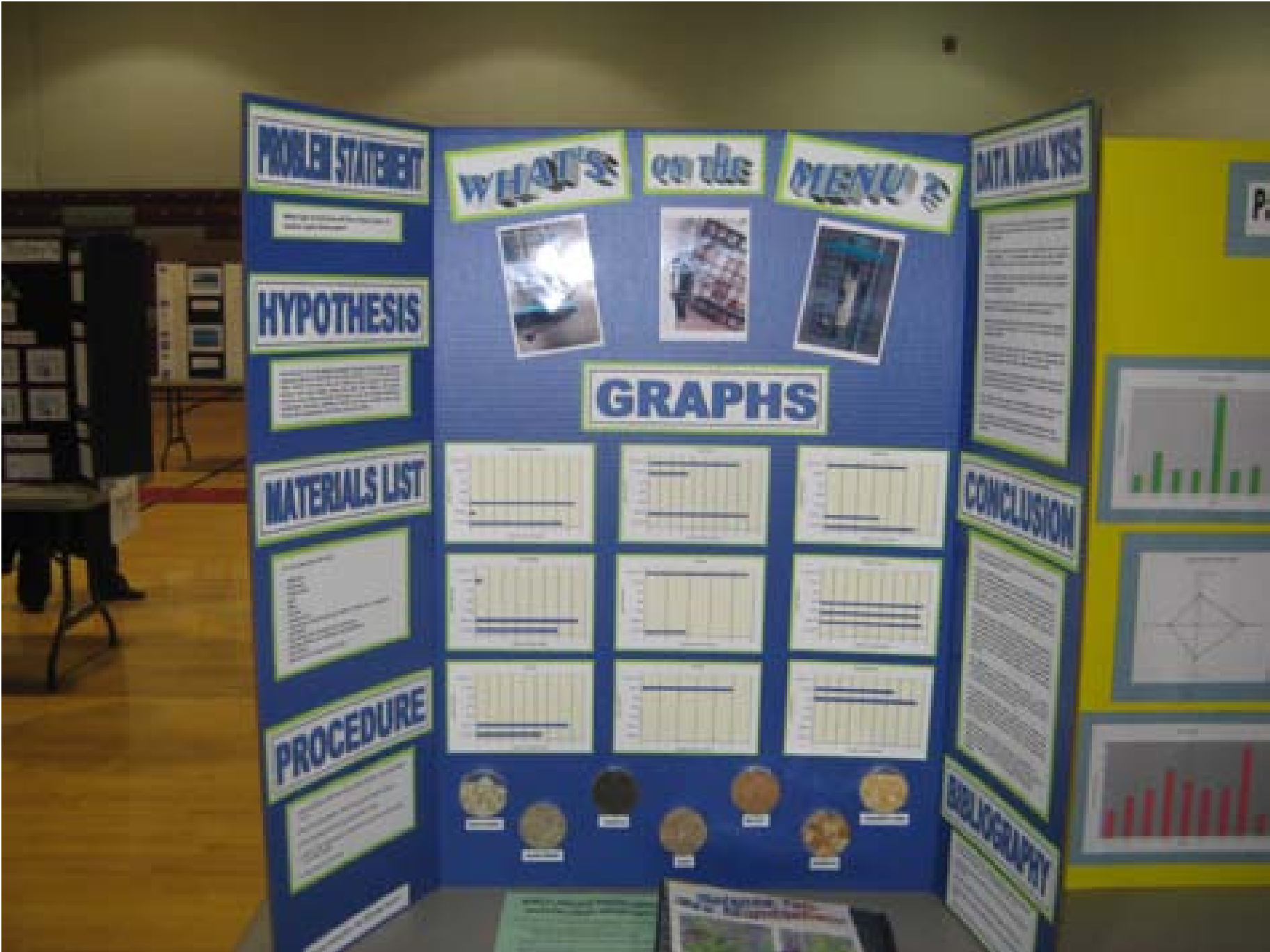
# Choices-Display Board

## Display Board –

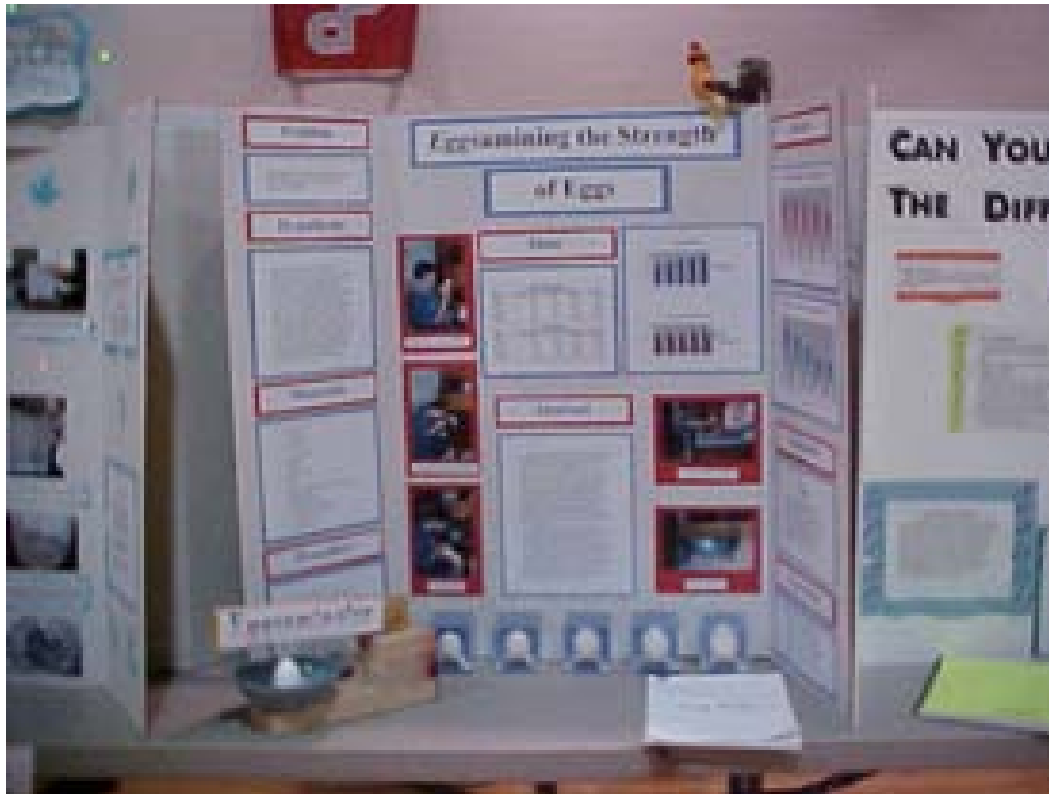
- Follow the scientific method to create a visual display board.
- **Keep a log book**
- Respond to interview questions
- Display boards are the responsibility of the student.







# Where Do I Get the Display Board?



The OMS & SMS school stores may be selling display boards and headings. The headings are in red, blue and black. The boards come in colors as well as white. Have your child check with the store in advance.

They are also available at A.C. Moore, Staples, area stores.

# Choices-Lab Report

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade only



Your child will :

- Follow the steps of the scientific method to form an organized and logical scientific lab report.
- **Maintain a log book**
- Respond to interview questions prepared by a group of teachers.



# •Choices-Oral Presentation

- Students use a PowerPoint program to create a 10 minute presentation
- **A log book is required.**
- Students present to a pair of teachers.
- This format can be used for PJAS. **PowerPoint MUST be transferred to overhead transparencies for the school science fair competition at the expense of the parent/student.**



# Optional Science Fair Competition



- PJAS- Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science
- Registration and Forms
- Prepare a 10 minute PowerPoint presentation and give an oral presentation with transparencies.
- Transparencies will need to be provided by parents.
- Parents are responsible for transportation to Easton High School on February 26th.



# PJAS- Penn State Competition

- Any student winning first place at the regional competition at Easton H.S. is eligible to compete at Penn State, main campus.
- Three day event, May 15th-17<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Transportation is provided.
- Students stay in dorms. No college students on campus at this time. Students are supervised –One adult/5 students.
- There is a fee for participation. (\$170.)
- Parkland School District offers scholarships to those in need.
- Contact your school PJAS coordinator.











# PJAS Work/Practice Sessions

- We will offer “Work/Practice Sessions” after school to prepare for science fair and PJAS. These sessions will be held in Jan.-Feb. Specific dates will be announced in early January.
  - Work sessions are for any science fair related work. Practice sessions are for oral presentations/PJAS practice only.



# How Will I Know When Everything is Due? Am I a Mind Reader?

- Your student will receive a timeline of due dates.
- Keep in mind that Orefield and Springhouse will conduct their School Science Fair on Feb. 23<sup>th</sup> , 24<sup>th</sup>, and 25<sup>th</sup>, with the Parent Night on Feb. 24<sup>th</sup> from 7:00-8:30.
- PJAS is Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> at Easton High School
- The PJAS State Competition will be on May 15-17, 2011



# How Much Should Parents Help?

- Help you with things like:
- Due dates
- Materials needed
- Safety issues
- Logbook reminders
- Time management
- Spelling and grammar checks





# What Happens Now?



- Your student needs to begin his/her topic selection and begin research.
- By the end of October students will be required to decide on whether they wish to participate in the PJAS competition.
- By Nov. 12<sup>th</sup> – All paperwork is due for PJAS.
- Please see your child's timeline for due dates.

# Contact Information

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# Don't Get "Stuck".... Question and Answer Time!

