



MIDDLE SCHOOL **SCIENCE FAIR GUIDE** **INTRODUCTION TO SCIENCE FAIR**

This guide is a tool for you to use to successfully complete your science fair project. Your project will be carried out individually and you have choices concerning how you will present it. You will find all the necessary forms and information needed to also compete in the Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science. This guide should be viewed as a textbook. Do not write in it or remove any pages in this book unless otherwise instructed by your teacher. Please share this with your parents so they are aware of your responsibilities and available resources. Please have your parents, as well as yourself sign and return the Science Fair Parent Form.

What is science fair?

A science fair project is one in which the scientific method is followed to answer a question or solve a problem through experimentation. This project is then shared with other students and the community at a middle school science fair usually held in February.

<p>“Whether you think you can or that you can’t, you are usually right.” -Henry Ford</p>

Can I work with someone else on my project?

No, your science fair project will be conducted individually.

How will I be graded?

All students in Parkland Middle Schools will receive the same evaluation rubrics. This project will be approximately one third of your grade for the marking period. You will be graded by a team of two teachers other than your science teacher.

What are my choices?

You can choose between two options in 7th grade and three options in 8th grade. Your presentation choices are below.

1 – Oral Presentation – You will use a PowerPoint program and create a 10 minute presentation to a group of teachers for evaluation. The presentation can be transferred to overhead transparencies for participation in the Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science competition.

2 – Display Board Presentation – You will create a display board to visually represent your project. You will be required to answer interview questions pertaining to your project.

3 – (8th grade only) Lab Report Presentation – Your project will be presented in a lab report format. You will be required to answer interview questions pertaining to your project.

What about area competitions?

You have the opportunity to participate in the Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science competition. PJAS requires a ten-minute oral presentation with a PowerPoint program printed onto overhead

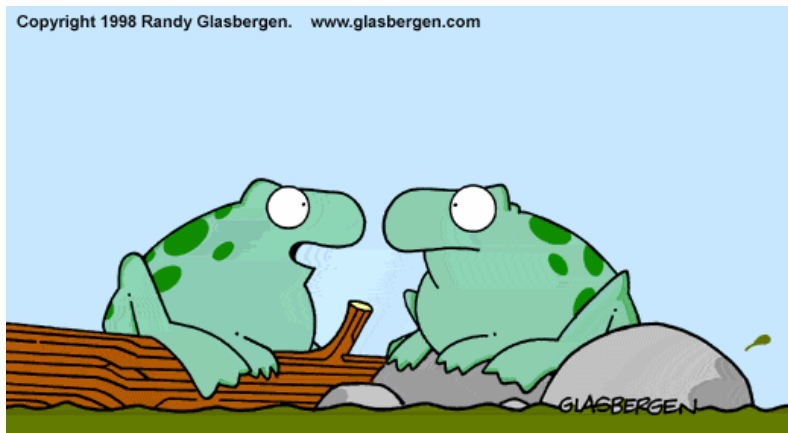
transparencies, (Your parents are responsible for the cost of the overhead transparencies.). If you reach the state level competition at Penn State, there may be a fee involved for participation.

Do I do research?

Yes, you need to research your topic. You will keep a log book, which is like a diary of your project. This research stays in your log book.

What do I do now?

Read over the evaluation rubrics and the selection choices. Follow your teacher's instructions and use this book as a valuable tool to achieve a successful project. Think of a project idea that is something important to you. Remember that this book is a textbook, and you are responsible for damages or missing pages. Please take care of it. You will be returning it when science fair is completed.



“Looks aren’t everything. It’s what’s inside you that really matters. A biology teacher told me that.”
