

## TIPS for completing Science Fair Registration

- CHECK the top of the form for the DUE DATE.
- HAVING TROUBLE DEFINING YOUR EXPERIMENT OR PROJECT? If your child would like to participate, PLEASE turn in a form and include questions on it—reviewers can help with ideas and feedback if needed. Don't overthink it!
- NAMES/TEACHERS/GRADES: Please include complete student name and at least one parent name. If you are doing a PARTNER PROJECT, include names of both students, a parent of each student, teachers and grades of each student. Both partners will receive a copy of the reviewed form.
- SCIENCE EXPERIMENT FORM
  - (1) EXPERIMENT TITLE can be a fun or catchy phrase for your project. It helps the reviewer understand your project.
  - (2) QUESTION: this is an important part of the project! Kids often have ideas about what they want to DO rather than what question they want to answer. Help them come up with a question that is SIMPLE and can be answered clearly by what they want to DO ☺ See the 'getting started' packet on the science fair website for ideas.
  - (3) HYPOTHESIS: What does your child think will happen as a result of the experiment?
  - (4) VARIABLE: What will you change in your experiment that may cause different results? Simple is better! You can also discuss other factors that you want to control (or keep the same) throughout your experiment. See the page "HOW TO BEGIN YOUR EXPERIMENT" in the Getting Started packet (link above) for more details.
  - (5) DATA: What will you measure? How will you measure it? You can also think about how you will display it—in a graph? In a chart? With pictures?
  - (6) SCIENTIFIC FIELD: This is actually a great place to begin, if your child doesn't have an idea already. Talk about the different fields of science, give examples, and let them choose a field.
  - (7) REFERENCE: This is helpful for reviewers if you are describing an experiment that you are taking directly from a website or book. If the student's idea is original, it's fine if you can't list a specific reference source on the form. It's just good to have a plan to do some research before beginning!
- ENGINEERING DESIGN FORM
  - (1) TITLE and QUESTION: Your child will want to DO something—build or create something new or improved. Help him or her define the project by coming up with a statement about WHY he or she wants to DO this—what is the goal of the project?
  - (1a) REQUIREMENTS: What specific, measurable results will define your project a success? For example, if the project is building a glider, how far will it need to glide? If you have constraints such as materials or size, you can list them here.
  - (2) BRAINSTORM IDEAS AND CHOOSE A PATH. What is your plan to reach your goal? How do you plan to build your solution? A brief description is fine. If you have a reference book or website, please list it.