Science Fair Information Packet
2017-18

Dear Parents,
This packet contains information about the **Berkman AIA Science Fair**, which will take place **during our Creating Change Through STEAM/Science Fair Night on January 25, 2018**. Now is the time for your child to get started! A Science Fair project is mandatory for every student in grades 3rd , 4th and 5th , they can work in groups or individually. Projects are due on January 22, 2018 with judging on January 25, 2018. The three highest scoring projects in grades 3-5 will move on to the Austin Regional Science Fair on February 24, 2018. All students PreK-2 will participate with class projects. We will begin selling Science Fair Boards on Dec. 11th before school in the STEAM Lab.

Each student will complete his/her project at home and on certain days during school hours based on teacher discretion.

We will offer two days in January, on the 11th and 16th for extra help with decorating science boards, but the majority of the work should be done at home.

Save this packet! It contains everything your child needs to complete his Science Fair project: a Completion Schedule checklist and Science Fair Guidelines.

Thank you for your support!

If you have any questions, please give call your child's homeroom teacher.

Sincerely,

Berkman AIA Science Fair Committee
Kathy Cawthron - Principal

Name: Teacher:

Science Project Completion Schedule

Assignment	✔ Check off when you finished.
1. Science Fair Project/Experiment Idea -	
2. Title, Problem (Question)	
3. Definitions to explain the meaning of the words in the problem statement	
4. Provide research for project and Hypothesis	
5. Experiment- Experimental Materials (Material list for experiment) Experimental Procedure (Steps needed to do experiment) Results log (Student describes what happened)	
6. Experiment- Updated Results Log	
7. Written Research Report about topic	
8. Experiment- Conclusion (Student answers the question posed in the problem. They decide how their hypothesis compares to the actual results.	
Turn in Austin Regional Science Fair Permission Slip to your teacher.	
9. References and Acknowledgements (student credits all sources and labels the source of pictures).	
10. Finished Project and bring project to School.	
11. Science Fair	

Science Fair Guidelines

This year, Berkman Science Fair has been scheduled in coordination with the Austin Regional Fair. The three first place winners at each grade level will continue on to the regional fair on Saturday, February 24, 2018. Projects are due on Jan. 22, 2018 and will be judged on Jan. 25, 2018.

Included are the science fair rules and a rubric explaining the expectations. We appreciate your support for learning at home and look forward to this wonderful science experience for our students. Good luck with your projects!

Science Fair Rules

**Our fair is aligned to the regulations of the Austin Regional Science Festival.*

- **No glass**
- **No liquids**
- **No open food items**
- **No live animals**
- **No bacteria or mold cultures**
- **No dirt**

  ** Students may have projects involving the above listed items, but must simulate and document the use of these items for the exhibit (i.e.: photos).

1. **We will begin selling Science Fair Boards on Dec. 11, 2018 in the STEAM Lab at Berkman.**
2. **Space limit:** Each project may not be larger than will fit on a student desk (i.e.: 3-fold foam boards).
3. **Written Display:** Each project should be explained in writing (typed or handwritten) for the display.
4. **Parental Help:** Some students are fortunate in that their parents have time to help them. Parents who do the thinking or display for them do not help the students. Parents are encouraged to help their children in these ways:
   - Read and discuss this handout.
   - Select projects which are appropriate for the child's age and grade level.
   - Plan and manage project work times and clean-up times.
   - Take child to the library.
   - Help draw straight lines for a *young* child.
   - Listen to your child's oral explanation of the project.
   - **Students must list any parental help in the References and Acknowledgements section of this project.**
5. **Electrical:** Electrical projects may use batteries as a source of electricity (batteries with open-top cells will not be allowed).
6. **Display board: Name of the student, Grade, and classroom teacher must be labeled on the BACK of the board only.**

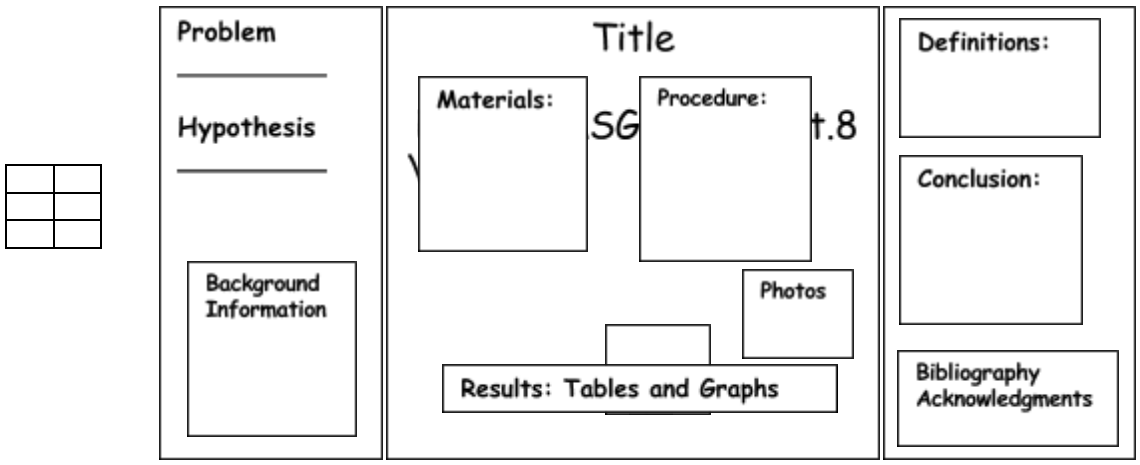
**** Students are not allowed to have any specimens as part of their display. They may use photographs instead.**

Experiment

The following criteria must be met in order to receive a good score on the project.

1. The final project must be displayed on the project board in a neat, organized manner. It needs to look like you put a lot of time, effort and thought into making your final project presentable.
2. Your title should contain no errors.
3. **Problem:** Your problem should be stated as a question.
4. **Definitions:** You should have definitions of words from your problem statement.
5. **Hypothesis:** Your hypothesis should be written as a statement about the problem
6. **Background Information:** The information from all three sources should be written in paragraph form with the sources cited
7. **Procedure:** A detailed list of the actual steps you took to complete the project should be included.
8. **Materials:** A list of materials used in completing the experiment should be displayed
9. **Results** should be displayed using charts, graphs, pictures…
10. **Conclusion**: Your conclusion should be at least 1 paragraph stating the results of the experiment and what you learned from the results
11. **Bibliography** listing your resources.
12. **Acknowledgments** stating who helped you with your experiment.

Display Board



Science Fair Experiment Outline

1. Topic: What is your project about? (ex.: plants, the sun) **Projects not allowed include: growing bacteria or mold, harmful to animals, explosives, hazardous chemicals**

_____

2. Title: What is the title of your experiment?

_____

3. Problem: (The question you want to investigate) **Example:** How does the surface of a ramp (variable) affect the time a marble will roll down a ramp (item you measure). *Note: Research topics are not allowed because they do now follow the scientific process. This is not a report, it's an experiment.)*

_____

_____

4. Definitions: Explain the meaning of the words in your problem? (**Example:** Surface- the outer boundary of an object)

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

5. Hypothesis: Make a prediction about what you think will happen as an answer to your question. (**Example: I think** that the smoother the surface is, the faster the marble will roll **because** I noticed when my brother rolled his car down the drive it went faster than when he rolled it down the grassy hill.)

I think……..because

I predict……..because

_____

_____

_____

Science Fair – Research

(Must be from 3 different sources)

Source Title: _____

Author or Website: _____

Information:_____

_____

_____

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Source Title: _____

Author or Website: _____

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Written Research Report

Science Fair-Materials and Planned Procedure

Materials:

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.
7.
8.
9.
10.

Planned Procedure: List the most logical steps. You will keep a log during the experiment of your actual steps.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

Science Fair Recording/Results/Conclusion

(This is an example of a chart that you can record you results. Your labels may be different based on what you are observing and measuring)

Title: _____

Label:	Label: Measur				
Trial 1					
Trail 2					
Trail 3					
Trial 4					

Results (what happened):

Write a short paragraph telling what happened. For the completed project your results will be shown with graphs or pictures. You can use the following sentence stems to help write about your results.

-I observed…… -I noticed…… -The evidence shows….. -The data shows……

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Conclusion (Write one paragraph telling what you learned from the results of the experiment).
Therefore, I think. . .because my evidence shows. . .
In conclusion, I think. . .because my data shows

Acknowledgments: (Who helped you with your project and who took pictures of the project?)