**The Bare Bones Basics on doing a Science Fair Project!**

\*Not the golden rule, just guidelines to help get you started!

For K-4th Grade, there is not really a set rubric like what a teacher would give out. In 5th grade there is a packet that comes home for them to follow, so we use similar guidelines for K-4.  There are several sample boards of past projects, out for viewing in the Media Center and in the display case in the front lobby. Check them out for visual ideas/samples!

**Basic Steps:**

1.Come up with your question (Topic that your student is interested in)

2. Make your guess or hypothesis of what the answer is

3. Test/Observe

4. Organize data (make table/graph, etc)

5. Come up with conclusion

6. Summary- how did conclusion compare to your hypothesis.

7. Take some pictures of them testing, writing data, etc.

8. Put it all on your board.

**Past Project Examples:**

One year my son wanted to see what type of food our dog ate the fastest.  So we came up with options: dog food-kibble, wet dog food, beef, chicken, ham, carrots, doggy birthday cake, etc.  We timed her eating each type 3 different times. (this took a few weeks). Then he averaged the times and then figured out which one she ate fastest. Compared the results to his hypothesis and wrote up a conclusion/summary.

Another year he projected how the angle that a sling shot device (that he constructed) affected the distance that ping pong balls would go. Yes, a bit more involved than the dog food- but great fun as well!

**How to get ideas:**

LM Media Center has books with ideas the kids can check out.

The public library also usually has a big section with books set out this time of year, because many schools are doing the science fair around the same time.

There is also a document posted on the Long Meadow PTA Science Fair link that has a lots of good information and websites to find ideas online.

**\*The** **day of the fair is the soonest the projects can be brought to school**.  We will be at the school that day, (Thursday February 18th) at 08:00 a.m. Projects can be dropped off to the cafeteria from 8am-9am for us to set up for display. Please enter through the bus loop doors, as they are unlocked for SAC at that time.

**What to Expect on Science Fair Day**:

During the day of the Science Fair, teachers will be bringing their classes down for a viewing of the projects.  Check with your teacher what time their class is going, if you want to be there for your student’s presentation. Your student will be able to present their project to the teacher, class and a judge at that time.  He/she can just explain what they did, the results, her conclusion, etc.  It is a No-Stress type of presentation.  The class is only allotted a 20minute time frame for their viewing, so the ***presentations must be less than 5minutes per project***.  The judge will give their feedback & the student will get a participation award.  A written evaluation along with a certificate will be attached to the project.  The projects stay at the school for display through that evening.  From 4:30-7p, there will be Family Viewing.  We ask that parents pick up their student's project to take home by 7p that evening, but try to not to pick up too soon, so that your child’s project can be viewed by our LM community!

**\*See next page for sample board layout format.**

