

May Watts PTA – Science Fair 2019

Choosing Science Fair Projects

Deciding what project to pick is half the battle in starting a stellar science fair project.

One of the keys to having an award-winning project is making the right choice. When choosing a science fair project, there are several things to keep in mind:

- **Available Materials**

Before you choose a project, you have to make sure that the materials are either available or obtainable. You cannot do a project that requires you to observe a Venus Fly Trap if you can't get your hands on one! In fact, it's a good practice to make a short list of possible projects and then investigate how readily available the materials are before making a final decision.

- **Student Interest**

Many parents make the mistake of helping their child choose a science fair project based on what seems easiest or most interesting to them. This is a mistake. Allow your child to choose a project based on his/her interests. By doing this you will ensure that it's your child doing the project instead of you.

- **Time**

Some students choose to do projects that require observing plants over a period of months or building complicated contraptions. These can often make very exciting projects. However, you need to make sure that you have the time to complete them before committing to them.

- **Scientific Method project or Models, surveys and demos?**

Models, surveys and **demonstrations** are acceptable for the non-competitive section (Kg - Grade 2, and other children who chose to participate in noncompetitive section). But for the competitive section, the project will have to be a Science experiment based on Scientific Method (See the document link on "The Scientific Method" on May Watts science fair site (<http://www.wattspta.org/science-fair>)).