2-20-2011

Dear Parents;

Our science festival is approaching quickly and I want to provide C.T. parents with some materials to help gauge your son or daughter’s progress over the next week and a half. Included below are anÖ

1. Event summary,
2. Project completion timeline,
3. Extra credit options, and
4. Presentation options.

I have gone over all these with the students over the past several weeks; this communication is *for reinforcement at home*.

Although the Saturday science festival is optional for C.T. students to attend it is my hope that they will be able to spotlight their projects at this wonderful community event. It will be their opportunity to share what they have been working on with our community at large. There is little more rewarding for a student than to share what they have discovered with others. Attending 6-8 grade students earn community service hours and extra credit in science.

As last year, our science report submission process will have a paperless option. Students will be able to upload their project reports to our MediaFire account, which is currently available for their science class. All they will need to do is log onto <http://www.mediafire.com/> and type in the e-mail address [w.thompson@loma.k12.ca.us](mailto:w.thompson@loma.k12.ca.us) and password thomscience to have access to their period’s folder. This option will reduce printing at home and is recommended if they wish.

Please do communicate any questions, suggestions, or comments, to this address or just give me a call, 831-535-8545.

**Event Summary**

Thursday March 10th;

Students bring their science boards & display materials to school.

8th Grade students drop off in the Art Room, in back of the gym

7th Grade students drop off theirs in CT rm. 9; right side

6th Grade students drop off theirs in CT rm. 9; left side.

Display boards set-up by period, 1st through 6th

Friday March 11th, 1st -6th Periods (School-Only Event)

Student presentation of projects, period by period.

Judging of projects by category

Local judges from the community

Saturday, March 12th, 3-5pm (Parent and Community Event)

Students wishing extra credit and community service hours

present projects during the **Loma Prieta Family Science Day**

All encouraged to come & take part, although not required.

Break down & clean up.

**Project Completion Timeline 7th & 8th Grades**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Task** | **Due** |
|  | Here is the timeline for writing your report and putting together your project display board. Type the report first and then create the display board from that. By March 1st put the finishing touches on your science experiment and gather all data. Student teams have been gathering data since November at this point. Remember, more data is better; repeated trials, 3 minimum. Your team should have detailed, complete, hand-written notes, materials, procedures, and well-organized data tables and observations in your lab notebooks. | by January 7th |
|  | **First half of presentation board and report completed (typed):**   1. Title Page (Report only) 2. Table of Contents (Report only) 3. Science content link 4. Introduction/Summary statement 5. Community issue addressed 6. 3 variables (6th, 7th, 8th) & Control group (8th grade only) 7. Research question 8. Hypothesis 9. Materials & Procedure in PBJ format 10. Data table(s) & Graphs 11. Integrate extra credit from list (Report only, at end) 12. Think about alternate presentation modes (optional, see list) | by February 28th |
|  | **Second half of presentation board and report completed**   1. Complete data tables 2. Observations (bulleted, outline, brief) 3. Summary of results 4. Analysis, graphs, charts, continued. 5. Background research 6. Cycle of Inquiry (8th grade only) & Conclusion 7. Bibliography (7th & 8th grade) 8. Gather and choose physical materials you want to display by board | by March 7th |
|  | **Finishing touches**   1. Complete last minute details 2. Incorporate all your extra credit stuff 3. Rehearse your judging presentations (in class) 4. Rehearse your alternate presentations 5. Evening of the 9th; gather materials in one spot by the front door at home. 6. Morning of the 10th; load all your stuff in the car to bring to school. Drop off in designated area. During science class you will set up your boards and materials in the gym and practice your judging presentations; each partner has a role. Live caged animals are brought to school only on the 10th and 11th and not left overnight. 7. At school in science on the 11th; Your big day; Present your results to the judges as a team. Remember our work on leadership, public speaking, teamwork, and community. If you’re not going to be at the science festival on the 12th, bring your stuff home today. 8. Afternoon of the 12th; Present your projects to the community at the Loma Prieta Science Festival. Afterwards, gather material for home and clean up. | March  8th -12th |

Science Projects; Extra Credit Components

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **COMPONENT** | **DESCRIPTION** | **%** |
| Integrating Local Community Issues | Community issues/problems… your project as a solution for an issue facing our community.  Notes: | 2.5 |
| Integrating Science Standards | The more standards you connect to your project the more credit.  Notes: | 2.5 |
| Standards from Other Classes | Actually including standards from your other classes, evidence.  Notes: | 2.5 |
| Networking with other teams | Finding some connection between your study and that of others  Notes: | 2.5 |
| Networking with scientists/business | Talking with scientists or business owners in your area about your work, include evidence, phone #’s dates, notes in journal…  Notes: | 2.5 |
| Working with scientists/business #1 | Actually getting physical help, working in their labs or businesses, include evidence, phone #’s dates, notes in journal  Notes | 2.5 |
| Working with scientists/business #2 | Your work contributes to and helps the scientists or business owners with their work or business operations, include evidence.  Notes | 2.5 |
| Consulting local government agency | Discussions or actually working with city/county agencies such as the fire dept, police dept., planning dept., water dept., etc.  Notes: | 2.5 |
| Enact new local policy | Working with city & local governmental agencies to help enact new policy, attend planning meetings, board & council meetings, etc. for extra credit. Notes: | 2.5 |
| Help your or another family | Does your project help your family or another family you know? Describe how for extra credit.  Notes: | 2.5 |
| Collaboration through grade levels | Your project work includes collaborating up or down in grade level | 5.0 |
| Other ideas… | Discussion with teacher to build in your own ideas |  |
| TOTAL POINTS |  | 30 |

Presentation Options—Show What ‘ya Know

In addition to the poster boards that we will be designing you do have the option of earning double the normal amount of extra credit for your science festival project… Kind of like super sizing your point options. Simply choose one or more of the options from the list below for even more credit. Be prepared to present what you come up with!!

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **COMPONENT** | **DESCRIPTION** | **Check** |
| Develop video game | Create a video game illustrating your experiment and results. |  |
| Video presentation | Video tape your experiment throughout the process. |  |
| Skit | Create a skit to illustrate your experiment. |  |
| Play | Write, direct, and star in a play about your experiment. |  |
| Newspaper article | Write a sensational newspaper article describing the experiment. |  |
| Models | Build a scale model representing your experiment. |  |
| Interview | Write up and present an interview about your experiment. |  |
| Diary entry | Make a personal diary entry describing your experiment. |  |
| Sales talk | Give a sales talk intended to sell your experiment for income. |  |
| Puppets | Construct puppets; perform a puppet show on your experiment. |  |
| Stage setting | Create a miniature stage setting representing your experiment. |  |
| Dress up | Dress up as your experiment and perform the results |  |
| Movie producer | Write a letter to a movie producer convincing them to make a movie of it. |  |
| Review | Write a review of your experiment as for a movie in a newspaper. |  |
| Diorama | Build a diorama of your experiment in semicircular fashion. |  |
| Feature article | Write a feature magazine article describing your project. |  |
| Travel brochure | Create a travel brochure to the destination of… Your science experiment!! |  |
| Comic book | Create a comic book describing the exploits of your team and your experiment. |  |
| Poster | Create a poster of your project using, markers, paint, crayons, real items, etc. |  |
| Dolls/action figures | Use two or more dolls or action figures in a skit about your experiment |  |
| Song | Write and perform an original song in any style about your experiment. |  |
| Poetry | Create a book of poetry about your experiment. |  |
| Photography | Create a complete series of professional photographs illustrating your project. |  |
| Your own Idea Here | Develop your own idea and present it to your teacher |  |