

2022 DRHG SCIENCE FAIR ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

We are so excited about Del Rio Homeschool Group's annual Science Fair. Students in 2nd grade and up are eligible to participate in the fair. If you register, please be sure that you are able to attend the set up AND the presentation/interview session.

Deadline for entry form submission

Monday, March 28, 2022, 8:00 PM

Age Eligibility

- Elementary Students 2nd and 3rd grade – encouraged to do a demonstration or display a collection of science related items. Students in this age group will not generate a written report. These projects will not be judged and will not be competing. Students in this age group will submit an entry form and a display board. This is to allow younger students to participate, but not have the expectations required from the older students.
- Elementary Students 4th and 5th grade – entry must be an experiment (not a demonstration or display). Students must submit an entry form, written report, create a display board and participate in a presentation and interview process.
- Middle / High School Students – entry must be an experiment. Students must submit an entry form, written report, create a display board and participate in a presentation and interview process.

Individual vs Group Entries

- You may submit one entry form for the science fair (meaning, you cannot submit a project for more than one category or one more than one age group).
- Students may choose to partner with a sibling or friend. If the students are different ages, the category for judging will be in the older age group and not both the middle and elementary age groups (for example: Haley (Middle School) and Will (Elementary) can pair up for a science fair project. The age group for judging will be middle school and not eligible for an elementary award).
- If doing a group project, submit only one written report. If multiple reports are submitted, only one will be considered for judging.

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- A maximum of two students per group. Both students should participate in the presentation and interview session.

Science Experiment Categories

Students can select a project in one of the following categories. The experiments must fall within one of these sciences. If you have a question about which category, please let us know.

- Category 1: Earth Science / Biological Science / Astronomy (examples – rocks, plants, stars, moons, planets)
- Category 2: Chemistry / Physical Science (reactions, processes, etc.)
- Category 3: Electrical / Engineering (robotics, circuits, mechanical systems, etc.)

We encourage students to think outside of the box. Remember, just about anything can be turned into a science project. Do you like music, building things, and/or living things? Find something you really like and then design a project around it.

Display Board and Written Report Requirements: The following parts are required for the display board and the written report. The complete written report will include these six plus other elements outlined by your teacher (Ex: Sources, Formal Bibliography, Future Questions, Etc.)

- Question/Objective
- Form a complete Hypothesis- using the IF/Then format. This must be a complete sentence
- Materials- List all of the supplies and the amount of each needed for the project.
- Experiment/Procedure- This is a step by step instructions performed during the experiment so anyone reading can duplicate the work.
- Data/Observations- Depending on the project type, include the following: data, tables, drawings, photos, writing what you observe, etc. This does not need to be in complete sentences.

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- Results/Conclusion- Summarize the observations and what they mean. Include real world application or examples of why the experiment is important. This part needs to have complete sentences in paragraph form.

Your presentation/display boards are not expected to be flawless, but they do need to be organized and complete. Parents can HELP but the work needs to be the students' work. The students are the ones who will be explaining the projects.

Presentation and Interviews (Elementary 4th grade through High School)

- Students must dress appropriately for the presentation and interview time. Dress as if you were preparing for an interview or competition.
- Students should be prepared to give a 3 to 5-minute presentation about their science experiment.
- This is a time to explain the experiment and defend it in the presentation and interview session.
- Only students listed on the registration may be involved with the presentation and interview session. Parents may not attend this portion of the science fair.
- Students must remain at their spaces at all times during the presentation and interviews.
- Your speech must be between 3 and 5 minutes.
- You must include your Scientific Method.
- Include all the essentials of the project.
- If you use visual aids, they must enhance your speech.
- Show the judges the students have a firm understanding of the basic scientific principles involved.
- Make eye contact with the judges.
- Keep the speech light and informational.
- Does your talk cover all the essentials of the project?
- Is your talk well-organized and flowing in a logical pattern?

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- Speak clearly. If we cannot understand you, then we cannot hear how awesome your project is.

Additional Notes and Considerations

- **Safety First- No dangerous chemicals, flames, explosions, live animals, living organisms or blood samples are allowed.** If you have an experiment that is questionable, please reach out to us via email or text. Be sure to describe in detail what the experiment will involve. All violations will include loss of points or result in a team being disqualified.
- If your project does use an animal for data collection, they **MUST be treated humanely and NOT HARMED.** This is where video would be helpful, but is not required.
- Chemicals **MUST** be approved by Del Rio Homeschool Group and the parent! If you are unsure, **please ask first.**
- Nothing that can stain or harm the church can be used. Again, ask if you're not sure.
- If you are unsure about a rule, please seek out guidance from a coordinator.
- The goal of this Science Fair is to provide students the opportunity to learn, grow, and gain experience while performing a cumulative project using the scientific method.
- All projects must adhere to the Del Rio Homeschool Group Handbook and meet the guidelines outlined within.
- Any project that infringes upon another person's property including: - any type of plagiarism - falsification or counterfeiting an incomplete bibliography-will be penalized and potentially disqualified.
- Any contribution by a mentor or any other person connected with the project must be listed in the bibliography of the written report as well as when presenting the project. Give credit where credit is due.
- Graphics, tables, logs, data and appendices can be used on your display board and can also be included in the report.
- **LAPTOPS** can be used, but are NOT allowed to be used in place of your project. You can use video as a process of data collection to

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enhance your project. And if you do use a laptop, the student is responsible for their laptop. **DRHG will accept no responsibility for any lost, stolen, dropped or broken laptops.** Parents, if you have questions see a director before you allow your child to use a laptop.

HAVE FUN! We can't wait to see what you come up with this year!

Schedule

Monday, March 28 8:00 PM - Deadline to submit an entry for the science fair

Friday April 1, 8:30 - 9:00AM - Middle and High School project set up

Friday April 1, 12:30 - 1:00 PM - Middle and High School judging/interview

Friday April 1, 12:30 - 1:00 PM - Elementary project set up

Friday April 1, 1:00 - 2:00 PM - Elementary judging/interview

Judges and participants are required to be present (4th grade and up). Students should be dropped off at the designated location and parents can remain on site, but are not allowed to observe or participate in the presentation and interview session.

Friday, April 1, 6:00 - 7:00 PM Families are invited to our chili cook-off to eat, view projects, and science fair awards. If you are unable to attend this portion, please make plans with someone to take your project home.