

MAPLE GROVE STUDENTS:



YOU ARE INVITED TO

EXPERIMENT WITH SCIENCE!!!

JOIN US FOR SCIENCE FAIR 2009

April 24, 2009

“Science – Light the Spark!”

Turn your questions into an experiment and have fun finding out the answer! Have you wondered how what type of bread will grow mold first – wheat, white, or rye? Why do people put salt on icy roads? Are some rocks harder than others?

Science Fair is Coming! - April 24, 2009! We encourage everyone to register and turn in a Project Question starting March 9th -- you will have plenty of time to get a good head start and finish your project on time. If you don't get it together before March 27th, we will still accept Project Questions up until April 6th.

REGISTRATION: Please complete the Science Fair Registration Form and return this form to your **homeroom teacher** by **February 10, 2009**, if you wish to receive a Science Fair Packet (a folder containing your Experiment Notebook, Information Guide, project ideas and more) in early February. Registration requests made after February 10, 2009 will be processed within 2 to 3 days after they are received.

You can also obtain Science Fair Registration Forms on the Maple Grove PTA Website. www.maplegrove-pta.org. **There is also listing of sites and other resources to generate ideas.**

JOIN US FOR....”SCIENCE – LIGHT THE SPARK”!!

If you have any questions, please contact Donna Walker, 2009 Science Fair Chair
Donna Walker 303-956-6429

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MAPLE GROVE SCIENCE FAIR 2009 REGISTRATION

(Turn in to your homeroom teacher.)

Yes, I want to register for Science Fair. Please send me the Science Fair Packet.

(Your phone number is VERY IMPORTANT, please include it!)

Student Name _____ Grade/Teacher _____

Parent's Signature _____ Home Phone _____ E-mail _____

PARENTS! We have an excellent committee of parent volunteers and welcome you to join us. Please sign up on the reverse side -- it takes many helping hands to run this show. A science background is NOT needed!

SCIENCE FAIR 2009 TIMELINE

Jan 20	Science Fair Kickoff with Dr. Scott Cowley/WALK-IN REGISTRATION
Jan 24	Registration forms go home to all students in Friday folders
Feb 13	Packets go home to all registrants
Feb 24	Information Meetings 2:40 and 7:00pm in the Library
Mar 9	PROJECT QUESTIONS MAY BE TURNED IN STARTING TODAY
Mar 27	REGISTRATION CLOSED!!!
Apr 6	LAST DATE FOR PROJECT QUESTIONS
Apr 8	DISPLAY SPACE FORM DUE
Apr 22	RECOMMENDED PROJECT COMPLETION DATE
Apr 23	PROJECT SET-UP AT SCHOOL (2:30 or 6:00)
Apr 24	SCIENCE FAIR!!!*
	* Scientist visitations, all classes view exhibits
	* Evening open house and Celebration Program

MAPLE GROVE SCIENCE FAIR PHILOSOPHY

Maple Grove's Science Fair offers an opportunity for young people to learn logical thinking and develop problem-solving skills. It also offers an opportunity for the students to explore experimental science and share what they have learned. Students are proud of their accomplishments and participate year after year. The Science Department of Jefferson County Schools believes that science fairs should be designed as learning tools, not as contests. A contest may reward winners for excellence, but too often it discourages the losers. At Maple Grove's Science Fair, all participants are winners. Students receive a certificate, name badge, recognition, and a special evening Celebration Program.

Many projects in science fairs seem to be reports or models. We strongly discourage reports and models since our emphasis is on learning *experimental science*. The goal of Maple Grove's Science Fair is for each student to clearly define an experiment and understand the results. Children ask questions: how...why...what if? Natural curiosity is the first step toward thinking about cause and effect and here is the opportunity to let them explore the answers themselves. Both parents and students discover that science can be fun and non-threatening!

Need help? Many books are available in libraries. Also, Science Fair PARENT CONTACT volunteers are assigned for each class. This is not a contest, it is FUN, and there is plenty of help offered if needed!

Science Fair Tips

The sooner you get started, the better!

There are many great resources for science experiment ideas in the Maple Grove library (see CHANGE), your public library (Children's section) and on the internet.

Library section 507.8 contains books on science fair projects. Sections 530 and 540 can help you find ideas for science projects in specific areas.

Visit museums and their gift shops and the book sections in toy stores.

If your experiment involves growing plants, start NOW!

On the internet type in *science fair* and you will find more sites than you could imagine. Some good ones are:

www.stevespanglerscience.com/experiments/

www.scifair.org

www.exploratorium.edu

www.accessexcellence.org/21st/TL/scifair

www.chipublib.org/008subject/009scitech/scifideas.html

Your Science Fair packet arrives soon....more details and information then.

Be sure to read everything in your packet -- EVERYTHING in there is important!

Some ideas to get you started

Science Topics

Plant Study

Roots, stems, leaves. Flowers. Seeds. Bacteria, molds, yeast, growth, feeding plants, varying amounts of light, water

Rocks, Soils, Mineral, Fossils

Soil testing, geologic experiments, fertilizers

Air and Air Pressure

Air takes up space, has weight, exerts pressure, simple pumps, siphons, compressed air, chemical effects of air, air streams, pollution

Weather

Measuring weather by instruments, moisture, freezing, boiling

Heat

Expansion effect, temperature, transfer of heat, melting and boiling, solar energy

Magnetism

Types of magnets, compasses, navigation

Electricity

Static electricity, simple electric cells and circuits, heat and light from electrical energy

Light

How it travels, reflections, refraction, experiments with color, shadows

Chemistry

Chemical changes using simple kitchen products, cooking crystals, making useful products

Ecology

Pollution, pond life

Aerodynamics

How planes fly, rockets, balloons, jets

Human Body

Fingerprints, pulse rate, blood types, biorhythms, lung capacity, nutrition

Genetics

Family differences, eye color, hair color

PARENT VOLUNTEER FORM

Yes, I'm willing to help!

Parent Name _____ Phone _____

Count me in, too!

Parent Name _____ Phone _____

_____ REGISTRATION/CERTIFICATES

_____ PUBLICITY

_____ DECORATIONS

_____ HOSPITALITY

Day before Science Fair (Thursday, Apr 23rd)

_____ Set-up Tables (1-2 in gym)

_____ Supervise Exhibit Set-up (2:30-3:30 or 6-7 in gym)

Day of Science Fair (Friday, Apr 24th)

_____ Escorts (8-10 am gym cafeteria)

_____ Security (10-12 or 12-2 gym)

_____ Decorations (1-3)