



Waukegan Public Schools

Community Unit School District No. 60, Lake County, Illinois

DONALDO R. BATISTE, Ph.D., Superintendent

"Cooke Builds Character with Class"
ANDREW COOKE MAGNET SCHOOL
522 Belvidere Road
Waukegan, IL 60085
Ph: 847-360-5463
Fax: 847-360-5383

Ms. Nan Heim, Principal
nheim@wps60.org

December 1, 2011

Dear Parents & Guardians

Please remember that Topics/Purpose/Hypothesis are all due on the December 15th (4th Grade) and December 16th) for 5th grade. If your child is having problems coming up with a topic for science fair, spend some time on these websites at home, the library, a friend's house, or anywhere else with an internet connection.

These sites can be helpful in leaning all aspects of the science fair process including: Finding Project Ideas and Project Guides to help you budget your time.

My personal favorite is:

http://www.sciencebuddies.org/science-fair-projects/parent_resources.shtml

- This link has helpful tips for parents and students and offers a range of support for all starting with the About Science Buddies website all the way to Internet safety while conducting research and collecting data. There is also a useful Topic Selection Wizard to help your child find a topic of interest for them.

<http://www.good-science-fair-projects.com/elementary-science-fair-projects.html>

- Click on the left page of this site under Elementary and scroll down. You will find science fair projects under the headings of Earth Science, Biology, Physics, and Chemistry. Once you click on the link of interest, there is a basic step-by-step "how to," for you to reference.

http://www.cyberbee.com/science/prep_sites.html

- This site has numerous data ranging from “Tips for Selecting a Topic,” “Tips for Following the Scientific Method,” “Benefits,” of doing a science fair project, “What makes a Good Science Fair Topic?” and a “how – to” for “Selecting a Science Fair Topic.”

http://sciencefaircenter.com/science_fair_basics.tpl

- This page is for parents. It suggests how you can support your student during science fair and keep them on track. It is a one page, printable document.

<http://super-science-fair-projects.com/>

- This site is pretty comprehensive and offers a lot of information on how to select a good topic as well as Steps for Doing a Science Fair Project.

<http://www.discoveryeducation.com/sfc>

- This site helps find: Ideas starters, project timelines, teacher resources (that can be used by parents as well as students), Student Tips & Tricks, Shopping lists, Checklists, and more. It’s sponsored by Elmer’s (glue co.) but contains valuable information as well.

Please use these sites not only if you need help finding a topic, but also to see how they might recommend doing it.

Thanks,

Todd Freer
Science Teacher
Andrew Cooke Magnet School
tfreer@wps60.org
847.877.2612 (cell)