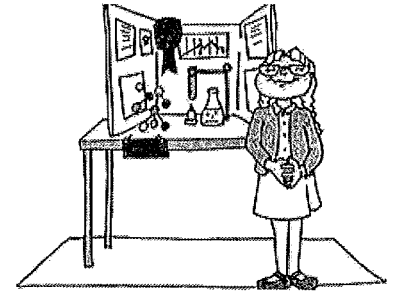


Dear Parents,



It's that time again to be thinking about our **Ballard Elementary Annual STEM/Science Fair**. All 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, graders are encouraged to complete a group or individual Science/STEM Fair Project as last year. Fifth Graders will need to complete an individual project. All projects need to be neatly presented. Students will work on these at home.

We have numerous supplies at school to help with this process. Please ask your child's teacher before purchasing any materials. There will also be plenty of support opportunities at school for your child to participate and follow guidelines for completing their project. A Project Guide and LOG BOOK with a schedule will be given to each student to help guide them through the process of completing their project. A Science Board will also be provided to each student.

This experience will enable our students to understand and use the scientific inquiry skills that we will be learning in Science Lab this year. It is a fantastic opportunity for children to conduct a controlled experiment at home on their favorite Science topic. Projects must answer a testable question and follow the scientific method. Although models and research project can also be fun, this project needs to be an experiment.

For example, a testable question might be: How does salt affect the freezing rate of water? Or which type of soil grows a bean seed the quickest? Things that are NOT testable questions for a project might be: How do volcanoes erupt? What are nocturnal animals?

All projects are due to school by Friday, December 9th, 2022. They will be judged by three adults and students will get a chance to answer questions about their projects during interviews. The three highest scoring projects at each grade level, 3, 4 and 5, will represent Ballard Elementary at the Manatee Regional Science Fair on January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

Please fill out and sign the form below. Teachers, please return all forms to Mrs. Giannopoulos in the STEM Lab.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Giannopoulos, STEM Lab Teacher

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**Return by October 3rd, 2022.**

Yes, my child will complete a science fair project. I understand that I may assist, but she/he is responsible to do all the work

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature. \_\_\_\_\_