

## CHOOSING A SCIENCE FAIR & EXHIBITION PROJECT

Before filling out your Science Fair & Exhibition Participation form, you must consider the type of project you want to do, and whether or not you want your project to be judged.

### DETERMINING THE TYPE OF PROJECT

There are three types of projects: Investigations, Demonstrations, or Experiments.

An **INVESTIGATION** is thinking of a scientific question or topic and then find more information about it by doing research. The Scientific Investigation Method includes: Question, Research, Conclusion. Investigations may not be entered for judging.

For more complete information regarding Investigations, please refer to "How to do an Investigation" beginning on page 4 of the Resource Guide\*.

A **DEMONSTRATION** illustrates a scientific principle or concept. Some sort of model or apparatus is used to show how the scientific principle works. The Scientific Demonstration Method includes: Introduction, Procedure, Results, Conclusion.

For more complete information regarding Demonstrations, please refer to "How to do a Demonstration" beginning on page 6 of the Resource Guide\*.

An **EXPERIMENT** is a test that you design to find out an answer to a specific question for which you think you know the answer. Experiments include variables, controls, and multiple trials to test your hypothesis. The Scientific Experiment Method includes: Question, Hypothesis, Procedure, Results, Conclusion.

For more complete information regarding Experiments, please refer to "How to do an Experiment" beginning on page 9 of the Resource Guide\*.

### TO BE JUDGED, OR NOT TO BE JUDGED

In the Science Exhibition, students put their projects on display without the pressure of speaking to someone about their project and being judged on the merits of their work.

The Science Fair allows students to speak with a judge, a science professional within our community, about their project. Judges range from teachers to engineers to doctors. These interviews generally last 10-15 minutes, and allow the judge to ask questions about the project and get more insight into the project than a display can show.

*\*The Resource Guide is available on-line at the [Webster Elementary website](#), under PTA → Science Fair & Exhibition.*

If you have any questions, please contact a member of the Science Fair team at:  
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