

Information Packet for:

The Third Annual
Oak Ridge City Science Fair
3rd, 4th and 5th Grade Students
February 25-26, 2012

“A fact is a simple statement that everyone believes. It is innocent, unless found guilty. A hypothesis is a novel suggestion that no one wants to believe. It is guilty, until found effective.” ~Edward Teller

Teachers, Students, and Parents:

The Rotary Club of Oak Ridge Sunset, B&W Y-12 and other sponsors are pleased to announce the Third Annual Oak Ridge City Science Fair to be held on February 25-26, 2012 at the New Hope Center at the Y-12 facility, 602 Scarboro Road. The Science Fair is open to all 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students who are residents of Oak Ridge, Kingston, Harriman or Oliver Springs and including students attending public or private schools or that are homeschooled. Participating students will have the opportunity to meet with local scientists to gain meaningful scientific knowledge about their project and explore ideas for possible extensions of their discoveries. The Oak Ridge City Science Fair will result in 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place overall winners as well as three winners from each grade for each of our categories Earth, Life and Physical Sciences. Teachers of the students whose projects take first in each of the categories may also be eligible for awards and prizes.

The Rotary Club of Oak Ridge Sunset, B&W Y-12 and other sponsors of this event aim to engage and excite students to the wonders and adventures of science; to motivate life-long science learners and investigators; and expose students to science career opportunities! Most importantly, we hope that each participant will have fun and enjoy learning about science and the world around them!

Completed registration forms must be submitted to Jason Duncan Science Fair Coordinator, by 3:30 pm on January 31, 2012 and should include the following items:

Entry Form & Signature Page with 3 signatures (Attached)
Copy of abstract (250 words maximum see below.)

If you have questions or need assistance, please contact your school science lab instructor, or science teacher. The science coordinators have the contact information for the science fair coordinator if there are any questions concerning participation or rules.

Oak Ridge City Science Fair Rules

Each contestant may enter only one exhibit.

Projects must be age-appropriate and not put the student in danger of injury to self or others. Parents are encouraged to assist students with tasks that require dexterity beyond the student's age level, such as sawing boards, using glue guns, etc but the preponderance of the work must be done by the student.

No project will be accepted that causes harm to any living creature.

An abstract (not more than 250 words) must be adhered to the front of the display board.

Displays should not exceed the basic dimensions of 48 inches wide by 18 inches deep by 36 inches high. These are MAXIMUM dimensions. Students are able to enter smaller displays. Most students will find the tri-fold poster boards normally associated with science fair displays to be the preferable manner of presenting their experiment results.

Anything which could be hazardous is PROHIBITED as a part of the display including, but not limited to, disease causing organisms, open flames, sharp objects, flammable substances, dangerous chemicals or drugs (including household cleaners), live creatures or plants, preserved vertebrate animals or parts (including embryos or teeth), operation Class III or IV lasers.

All liquids (which must be non-hazardous) must be contained and covered to eliminate any possibility of spilling.

Participants are encouraged to use photos on their display board or report; however, no faces should be visible.

Neither the student's name, teacher's name nor the school's name should be visible anywhere on the display board, logbook, or in the report.

Students must be present for a judging interview on Saturday between 1:00 pm and 4:00 pm. If the student misses the interview she/he will receive a zero on that portion of the competition selection criteria. Times for the interview will be assigned when the student sets up their display on Friday, 25 February, 2011.

While there are no cost guidelines for projects judges will consider the extent to which purchased equipment has aided in the experiment and presentation.

Judging Criteria:

Projects will be graded on use of the Scientific Method. That is the positing of a hypothesis, an experiment to test that hypothesis and an explanation and demonstrated understanding of the outcome of the experiment as it pertains to the hypothesis.

Additionally, each project will receive a score for presentation and each student will be scored on a verbal interview with the judges wherein the student explains their

hypothesis, experiment and outcome. Students will be asked how they chose their subject, what research they performed and how they view the subject after having completed the experiment.

Important Science Fair Dates to Remember:

Monday, January 31, 2012:

Deliver the Science Fair Entry Form/Signature Page & Abstract to your school science fair coordinator or mail it to the following address:

Oak Ridge City Science Fair Coordinator
The Rotary Club of Oak Ridge Sunset
969 Oak Ridge Turnpike
PMB 234
Oak Ridge, TN 37830

Saturday, February 25, 2012:

Science Project Set up

Each student will be given a time to bring his/her science project to the New Hope Center, 602 Scarboro Road, Oak Ridge, TN on Saturday, February 25, 2012. There will be a Rotary coordinator present to show you where to set up the project display. Each student is given approximately 10 minutes to set up.

Saturday, February 25, 2012:

Science Project Judging

Immediately following project set-up, the student will describe his/her project to a team of three judges and answer a few questions. This typically takes 10 minutes. While judging is taking place projects will not be available for public viewing. Projects will remain in the atrium area until after the awards ceremony on Sunday.

Sunday, February 27, 2011:

Science Fair Public Viewing and Awards Ceremony.

Public viewing will be allowed for projects between 2:30 and 4:00 PM. The Awards Ceremony will take place at 4:00 pm in the auditorium at the New Hope Center. Projects will need to be removed from the Center immediately following the Awards Ceremony. Any projects not picked up will be disposed of by the fair coordinators and cannot be returned after Sunday, February, 26

Note to parents and teachers

On Saturday, the student should be at New Hope Center for no more than an hour. During this time, the Rotary Club of Oak Ridge Sunset will provide refreshments for parents and teachers.

Oak Ridge City Science Fair
Entry Form & Signature Page
Application Deadline 3:30 pm January 31, 2012

Student Information

(Please Print)

First Name: _____ Last Name : _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____

Grade: _____ School: _____

Parent Names:

Sponsoring Teacher:

Project Information

Title:

Category: Earth Science Life Science Physical Science

Will you need electrical service? Yes No (You must provide your own extension cord.)

Please attach a copy of your abstract that explains the purpose of your project in 250 words or less. That is: Your hypothesis and a description of the experiment you will use to test that hypothesis.

This registration form can be delivered to your school's science fair coordinator (preferable) or mailed to the following address:

Oak Ridge City Science Fair Coordinator
The Rotary Club of Oak Ridge Sunset
969 Oak Ridge Turnpike
PMB 234
Oak Ridge, TN 37830

If you don't know the name of your school science fair coordinator, please contact your teacher or the principal's office at your school.

I have read the Oak Ridge City Science Fair Rules and will obey them as I safely develop and exhibit my project. While I will receive guidance from others, the project, and exhibit that I will display is entirely my own work. I will leave the entire exhibit on display until after the awards ceremony. I understand my exhibit will be discarded if left after 7:30 p.m. on February 27, 2011. I certify that this entry form was filled out correctly, signed, and approved by my teacher before it was turned in for admission. I understand that any omission or violation may result in disqualification.

Student Signature:

I have read the Oak Ridge City Science Fair Rules and agree that my child will abide by these rules. I understand that neither the science fair committee, nor the sponsors assume any responsibility for loss or damage to any exhibit or part thereof. I agree that Oak Ridge City Science Fair and the Sunset Rotary may use my child's name and/or photos from the fair or awards ceremony for promotional purposes. In addition, I agree that the email address and/or telephone number below may be used to contact me regarding science fair information.

Parent's email address and telephone number:

Parent Signature:

I agree to sponsor this student and assume responsibility for the compliance with the existing Oak Ridge City Science Fair Rules. I approve of this Student's project plan. In addition, I agree that the email address below may be used to contact me regarding information about the science fair on my students.

Teacher's email:

Teacher's Signature:
