

Science Fair

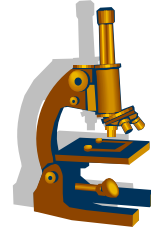
February 16th 3:00 to 5:00pm

Dear Parents,

Your child will be participating in CMP's annual Science Fair, an exciting event that encourages students to think like young scientists. During the next few weeks your child will be designing a science project that uses the scientific method to solve a problem. We hope you agree that the educational benefits are numerous, as students develop skills in writing, presentation, creative thinking, and problem solving.

Each student will be given instructions and handouts to help with the various steps of his or her project. Most of the work should be completed at home. For suggestions on helping your child through this process — from choosing a topic to the final report - there are many books and websites to help. Here are some that can be found using Google:

www.exploratorium.edu/explore/online.html
<http://school.discovery.com/sciencefaircentral/>
www.all-science-fair-projects.com/
www.sciencebuddies.org/mentoring/science-fairs.shtml



We ask that you encourage your child and monitor his or her progress along the way. Your support is key to a successful project, but also keep in mind that it is important that your child wrestle with problems and try to solve them. Guide your child whenever and wherever you can, but let the final project reflect your child's individual effort and design. Also, keep in mind that a successful project can be completed for under \$10. We look forward to watching your child enjoy this unique opportunity for scientific discovery!

The fourth and fifth and sixth graders are asked to do one of the state standards (listed below) for their project. There is plenty of room within these standards for choice and creativity. If you have any questions please see your child's teacher.

- Electricity and magnetism
- Biological Energy cycle (food chains, producers, consumers, decomposers,etc)
- Ecosystems
- Weather patterns
- Solar systems
- Rocks and minerals
- Water/water cycle
- Chemistry
- Plant/animal systems
- Solar system

The CMP 4/5/6 Teaching Team