

It's that time of year when the mold in your fridge becomes interesting -

The Annual Pathfinder Science Fair!

This year the fair will be held on **April 19th in the cafeteria**. During the day, the fair will run **1:30-3pm**, with all classes having a chance to admire each other's projects. The fair will be open again in the evening **6:30-7:30pm**.

Permission slips are due April 6th.

Andy Darring has a supply of cardboard tri-fold display boards available for the first 50 takers in the Eagle classroom.

We encourage your student to choose a project sooner, rather than later, to allow time for projects that take longer (like growing something in specific conditions), and for the scientific process to unfold (asking questions, making changes, making observations, reforming conclusions.).

This year we are NOT hosting help sessions. Bruce Toomey, our librarian, has a bunch of science fair books for you to look through for project ideas in the library, and Holly Rikhof will be visiting classrooms of interested teachers during the day.

Additionally there are many resources online:

Sciencebob.com is a website that is all about science fair. It even has a quiz to match you to a project that fits your interests.

Stevespanglerscience.com is a science teacher gone corporate, but he has lots of ideas and supplies available.

Even googling "science fair projects" will yield many outstanding possibilities. Attempting to replicate something you find on the internet is a fabulous project in itself. Approach it like the Myth Busters do – "is this glowing Mountain Dew recipe a hoax?"

Projects that "don't work", don't exist! They are actually the beginning to a great science project. Ask yourself: What were you expecting? Why do you think you got a different result? What can you change? What happens after the change?

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns regarding the science fair, please direct them to Holly Rikhof (holly.rikhof@comcast.net) or Andy Darring (afdarring@seattleschools.org).

Please consider volunteering the day of the science fair. We need a team of judges during the day and, of course, a set up and clean-up crew for both daytime and evening fairs.

Thank you for supporting our young scientists!