

Clark-Shaw Magnet School Grade Seven Science Fair Information

Dear Parent(s) and Student:

Attached you will find the science fair information that will be used during the grading process for Grade Seven at Clark-Shaw Magnet School. Please review these forms with your student and return the bottom of this form to your science teacher. Pay special attention to the SF rubric as it is specific for his/her grade level at Clark.

Science Fair projects are **required** of all middle school students at Clark-Shaw Magnet School. Failure to complete a project may result in a failing grade in science for 3rd quarter and will adversely affect the student's science grade during 1st and 2nd quarters as well. The math and language arts components of the project will also affect grades in those classes.

Policy for ALL SCIENCE FAIR COMPONENTS AND THE FINAL BOARD/PROJECT as follows:

Late Work Policy:

One-day late: Deduction 50 pts (exceptions at teacher's discretion) 50/100

Two-days late or beyond: Student will receive a zero on that component (exceptions at teacher's discretion) 0/100

...we will accept a component and/or the Final Project ONE day late with a 50% reduction in grade and we will not accept them after that...an exception may occur on an individual basis at teacher's discretion

We will NOT make copies of project components and students are NOT allowed to make copies in the Library on the day a project component is due. Be sure to print extra copies of the components that are needed for math and language classes.

The Clark Library will sell display boards and accessories. More information will be available at a later date.

Thank you,
Clark-Shaw Science Department

-----Detach at the dashed line and return the completed portion below to your student's science teacher-----

Date _____

I have read and discussed the attached science fair forms with my student. We both understand the information, and I will contact his/her science teacher if any questions or concerns develop during the experimental process.

Student Name (Print) _____ (Signature) _____

Parent/Guardian (Print) _____ (Signature) _____

Clark-Shaw Magnet School Grade Seven Science Fair Information

SCIENCE FAIR PROJECT RESTRICTIONS

Middle School students will not attempt projects using the following:

- Vertebrate animals—fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals, their parts, tissues or blood
- Recombinant DNA
- Pathogenic agents
- Controlled substances—including alcohol, steroids, drugs, etc.
- Growing bacteria or fungi
- Humans—other than simple observation without contact or identification
- Fire, flammable materials, and anything potentially hazardous

No live organisms, including plants may be exhibited at the fair. Projects involving the use of live organisms may display photographs, drawings, charts, or graphs to illustrate conditions, developments, and results of investigation.

Other items that will not be displayed at the fair:

- Taxidermy specimens or parts
- Preserved vertebrate or invertebrate animals
- Human/animal parts or body fluids
- Food of any sort
- Sharp items (knives, needles, etc.)
- Flammable materials
- Laboratory/household chemicals
- Glass containers
- Anything potentially hazardous or offensive
- Batteries with open tops or bare electrical wires
- Open flames
- Exposed knife switches
- Poisons, drugs, controlled substances
- Photos that would allow identification of persons
- Liquid, including water-filled containers-photographs of apparatuses are preferred to the apparatuses themselves

Under NO circumstances will firearms of any kind be allowed in our fair.

Clark-Shaw Magnet School Grade Seven Science Fair Information

MATERIALS NEEDED FOR PROJECT

1. Composition Notebook – needed by the first week of 1st Quarter.
 - a. Will be used throughout the entire project.
 - b. Students will bring log book to school to work on assignments as needed.
 - c. Any forms completed will be taped/glued into log book.
 - d. Completed log book will be due as a Major Test Grade in December.
2. Tri-fold Display Board
 - a. Will be due in December as a Major Test Grade.
 - b. See requirements on next page.
3. Materials/Equipment for Experiment
Please work with your child as they are selecting a topic in August to ensure they will have access to all needed materials for their experiment.

LIST OF ASSIGNMENTS AND DUE DATES

August 15 (Tuesday) –5:30pm Meeting ALL grades in Gym - *Parents and Students Welcome*

August 17 (Thursday) - Science Research Readiness form due (1st Quarter minor 40% grade)

August 23 (Wednesday) – Initial Ideas Checkpoint

August 30 (Wednesday)—Final Ideas Form due (1st Quarter MAJOR 60% grade) *

September 6 (Wednesday)—Project Proposal Form due (1st Quarter minor 40% grade) *

****Once your Proposal Form is accepted by your science teacher, you MUST do that Project!***

September 27 (Wednesday)—Research Plan due (1st Quarter minor 40% grade)

November 1 (Wednesday) – Raw Data Check

November 15 (Wednesday) - Final Data Checkpoint chart & graph due (2nd Quarter minor 40% grade) *

November 30 (Thursday)— Abstract due (2nd quarter MAJOR 60% grade)

December 12 (Tuesday)—7th grade Display Board (3rd quarter minor 40% grade) & Composition Logbook due (3rd Quarter MAJOR 60% grade) *

January 8 (Monday)—Project Presentations Begin (3rd quarter MAJOR 60% grade)

Clark-Shaw Magnet School Grade Seven Science Fair Information

FINAL ASSIGNMENTS REQUIREMENTS

- I. Abstract—a summative essay that describes your project - **November 30 (Thursday) – MAJOR grade**
- Title page (center the following information on the page: Project Title, Student’s Name, Class/Subject, Teacher’s Name, Class Period, and Date) **BE SURE TO HAVE THE APPROPRIATE TEACHER AND SUBJECT AREA FOR EACH ABSTRACT**
 - Use block paragraph form—do NOT use paragraph headings
 - Write in 3rd person, past tense (NO I, we, me, etc.)
 - NO LONGER than 250 words (one page, single-spaced body, double-space between block paragraphs)
- II. Display board—Reads like a book: Top Left ↓; Top Middle ↓; Top Right ↓(see diagram below) - **December 12 (Tuesday) – MINOR grade**
- Title: Should be on Title Board (Related to topic; can be “catchy”)
 - Purpose: Left side, top
 - Hypothesis; Left side, middle
 - Abstract; Left side, bottom *Summary essay—remember to print 4 copies of abstract; one copy for display board, one copy for your science teacher, one copy for your English teacher, and one copy for your math component
 - Procedure; Middle section, below title (includes materials list, photos of experiment in progress, bulleted description of the steps of your experiment, etc.) **BY FOLLOWING YOUR PROCEDURE, YOUR EXPERIMENTAL PROCESS SHOULD BE REPEATABLE**
 - Results: Right side, top (Summary paragraph plus at least one graph that best represents results of experiment; make sure it has a title, labeled axes, and metric units—remember to print two copies of graph in color: one copy for display board and one copy for math component
 - Conclusion: Right side, bottom
 - Font size should be at least 22 for board components
 - Check for neatness, correct spelling and grammar **NO STAPLES!**
 - Must have photos with captions showing your personal timeline—**NOTE ON YOUR BOARD THAT ALL OF THE PICTURES WERE TAKEN BY YOU, THE STUDENT**
 - Be certain that the photos do not allow you to be identified
 - Place a title page (from your abstract) on the back of the display board in the center section
 - Log book should be kept from the beginning of the process until the completion-it should be turned in with the board and draped over the middle section
 - Board must be the regulation size of 36” by 48” tri-fold project display board

General Layout



Clark-Shaw Magnet School Grade Seven Science Fair Information

- III. Log Book—must be kept and turned in along with display board - **December 12 (Tuesday) – MAJOR grade**
- a. A log book is your recording document for the entire experimental process, from beginning to end
 - b. Should include Experimental Procedure
 - c. Should include both qualitative and quantitative data collected during the entire course of the experiment. Data should be in metric units. Date and time each entry. If data is obtained outside be certain to document weather conditions
 - d. Should include any and all observations made while doing the experiment (qualitative data)—date and time each entry
 - e. Title on log book must match project title on display board—NO NAME(S) SHOULD BE VISIBLE ANYWHERE ON THE LOG BOOK
- IV. Presentation—Practice at home first! – starting **January 8 (Monday) – MAJOR grade**
- a. Time should be between 4-7 minutes for 7th graders
 - b. Describe everything on the display board
 - c. Describe your experimental apparatus and/or photos of the experiment in progress
 - d. Speak loudly, clearly, with correct pronunciation and grammar, facing your audience
 - e. DO NOT CHEW GUM OR READ THE BOARD

NOTE: The decision to enter the project in the school science fair competition will be made by the student and the teacher at the time of the science fair presentation in the classroom. Those who choose to participate will select a category for his/her project to be judged from the following list:

Behavioral and Social Sciences
Botany
Chemistry

Engineering
Environmental Science
Math & Computer Science

Medicine & Health
Physical Science
Zoology

**GRADING RUBRIC FOR GRADE SEVEN SCIENCE FAIR
PROJECT**

DISPLAY BOARD: 100 POINTS		**should be at least 22 font for board components - increase header to scale			
Title Page (attached to middle-back of display board)		0	3	5	
Title (related to the topic)		0	3	5	
Purpose (the problem, what was tested, how/why the topic was chosen)		0	5	10	
Hypothesis (expectations based on research of outside sources, NOT common knowledge)		0	5	10	
Abstract (refer to Abstract Rubric on back of sheet/minimum 22 font on display board)		0	5	10	
Procedure (experiment, materials/steps taken/measured variable/# times variable tested)		0	10	15	20
Results (must include graph and summary paragraph)		0	5	10	
Conclusion (facts learned/related results to purpose/extends results to hypothesis)		0	5	10	
Photos (avoid personal identity, MUST include disclaimer "all photos taken by student", caption for each photo)		0	5	10	
Appearance (neatness/free from errors/NO STAPLES/22-24 size font/section labels)		0	5	10	

_____/100

PRESENTATION: 100 TEST POINTS		**Do NOT chew gum - Do NOT read from board				
Time (4-7 minutes)		0	5	10	15	Total
						Time: _____
Demonstrates Subject Knowledge						
	Describes all board components	0	5	10	15	20
	Explains experiment/process	0	5	10	15	20
	Science content responses	0	5	10	15	20
	Displays Presentation Etiquette (speaking tone/grammar/ Pronunciation/audience awareness)	0	5	10	15	25
						30

_____/100

LOG BOOK: 100 TEST POINTS		**Your logbook of data & entries collected throughout entire experimental process		
Neatness (pages numbered, all papers taped/glued to correct page)		0	5	10
Materials List (detailed, all materials included)		0	5	10
Procedure (all steps numbered, detailed)		0	10	20
Project Proposal (correct form, completed)		0	5	10
Research Plan (printed out, correct format)		0	5	10
Raw Data (handwritten chart/include metric units, date, time of measurements)		0	5	10
Final Data Chart (printed out, title, metric units, caption)		0	5	10
Graph (printed out, title, X- & Y- axis labeled, legend)		0	5	10
Abstract (printed out, correct format)		0	5	10

_____/100