

Rules of the 2021 Oak Hills STEM Expo

****Must be read by all Student Scientists and Adult Supervisors****

This event is sponsored by our Oak Hills Educational Foundation

1. Safety First! All science fair projects must be supervised by an adult who can be reached by the STEM Expo Committee if necessary. Any project that breaks District policy, and/or local, state or federal laws is not permitted. Any project that involves the use of drugs, tobacco, firearms, radioactivity or explosives is not permitted. Please contact Tonia first if you plan to utilize something that requires extra precautions, e.g. bacterial/mold growth, dry ice, any device with a laser (including a class 1 laser). Never eat or drink during an experiment and wear protective goggles if needed to prevent eye injury. Remember to wash your hands after any experiment. Respect all life forms, and do not perform a project that may harm a vertebrate animal or human. Invertebrates may be studied in a humane way. Dispose of waste properly (email tsymensma@gmail.com if in doubt). If there are potentially dangerous parts of your project (chemicals, electricity, etc.), your adult supervisor must be present at all times to assist. If using the internet for researching your project, your adult supervisor must know which websites you will be visiting. Never write to or correspond with anyone without your adult supervisor knowing.

2. Human Subjects: You may include pictures of yourself (the student scientist) in your PowerPoint or Google Slides presentation, however you may NOT include photographs of faces or names of other people (including friends and family members) or any information that could be in violation of privacy.

3. Submitting Your Project as a PowerPoint or Google Slides Document: Your project will need to be emailed to tsymensma@gmail.com by Monday Jan 25th, 2021 at 9am. The PowerPoint or Google Slides document may contain a single embedded video if you wish, but the video must be NO LONGER THAN 1 MINUTE TOTAL IN LENGTH. A video is not required. The PowerPoint or Google Slides document should only be 9-15 slides long.

Example - For a Traditional Science Fair Project your submitted document could include a:

Title slide

Question and Hypothesis slide

Introduction/Background Research slide

List of Materials slide

Step by Step List of your Procedure slide

Figures/Photos/Tables/Graphs slides (showing your observations and data)

Explanation of the Data slide

Conclusions slide

List of References slide

Example - For an Innovation Project (engineering/design/computers) your submitted document could include a:

Title slide

Problem to be Solved slide

Proposed Solution slide

Introduction/Background Research slide

List of Materials slide

Step by Step Process of the Creation of your Prototypes(s) slide

Prototypes slide

Drawings/Photos/Graphs slides (showing what you observed and any data from testing your prototypes)

Explanation of the Results/Conclusions slide

List of References slide

4. References for 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th graders:

Your PowerPoint or Google Slides document should show a list of at least three references you used while doing background research for your project. At least one of the three references should be from a non-internet source (e.g. books, documentaries, peer-reviewed articles from journals like Scientific American, or an expert interview). Don't be surprised if the Judges ask you about your references. Please refer to your Guidelines packet for examples of how to properly list your references.

5. Be Creative! Buying items from a store is sometimes necessary, but we discourage the use of "ready-to-assemble" models or science fair kits.

6. Awards: Our Judges are 3rd party volunteers (not parents of current students) with STEM backgrounds who donate their time to benefit STEM education. All decisions of the STEM Expo Judges and Committee are final. Judges are allowed to move a poster from one category to the other if they feel it's appropriate. Posters for K-2nd grade will be judged without interviews. Posters for 3rd-6th will be judged with interviews. However, 3rd-6th grade students may choose on the Registration form to "not be interviewed," but by doing this they are no longer eligible for an award. Awards will be announced via Zoom during our STEM Expo Awards Ceremony on Friday January 29th, 2021 - time to be determined.

7. Data Log Books for 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th graders: We highly recommend that you keep all your thoughts/background research notes/drawings/observations/data points etc. for your project in ONE bound notebook/data log book. During a non-virtual STEM Expo, your data log book would be sitting in front of your poster for the Judges to see. This year, however, our STEM Expo Judges will not be asking to see your data log book **EXCEPT FOR 6TH GRADERS**. Sixth graders you must keep a thorough data log book and have it present during your Zoom interview.

All STEM Expo information can be found at the Oak Hills Educational Foundation website:
<http://www.ohef.org/stem-expo-2021.html>

Questions? Please contact the Oak Hills STEM Expo Chair:
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