

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE
COMPLETED ONLINE AT:
WWW.OYSTERFEST.ORG

Mason County Science & Engineering Fair
Shelton Skookum Rotary Club
PO Box 849
Shelton, WA 98584

MASON COUNTY SCIENCE & ENGINEERING FAIR RULES AND REGULATIONS

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY AND COMPLETELY !

- ▶ The Science Fair is open to all students K-8 attending school or home study in Mason County.
- ▶ **All entries must be completed online at www.oysterfest.org.** No paper applications will be accepted. Applications must be submitted by final date noted in online instructions.
- ▶ **Late entries will not be accepted.** Entries will not be accepted Friday evening or Saturday morning. Only applications completed online by the deadline will be accepted.
- ▶▶ **EVERY STUDENT MUST COMPLETE AN APPLICATION, EVEN IF IN A TEAM PROJECT.** Awards WILL NOT be presented to students who have not completed an application. (Class projects excepted.)

BASIC REQUIREMENTS FOR A SCIENCE FAIR PROJECT:

1. All work must be done by the student(s); parents / teachers act in an advisory roll only.
2. Science projects eligible for prizes are ones that involve:
 - a. **Experimentation-** A successful science project asks a question, and predicts an answer. Design and perform experiments to prove or disprove your prediction and draw conclusions from your results.
 - b. **Explanation or Demonstration of a Scientific Fact or Principle,** using models, pictures and graphs.
 - c. **Collections** – Students in primary grades may develop collection demonstrating skill in observation.
3. *The project must be approved by your teacher.*
4. **Notebook.** *Each student must prepare a notebook* telling what was done, how it was done, and when it was done. The notebook should contain references, research data, drawings, charts, pictures, and bibliography. Each notebook must include a *completed Science Fair Work Plan* form (attached). Notebooks or Kindergarten age may use drawings to explain the work done. **NOTE: ENTRANTS WHO DO NOT SUBMIT A NOTEBOOK AND WORK PLAN FORM ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR PRIZES OR AWARDS.** This is only fair to those who have followed all instructions carefully.
5. Your exhibit must explain your project with generous use of pictures, graphs, text or working demonstration. This is your chance to help others learn about what you have done and learned. Your understanding and application of scientific methods will be a major factor in judging, especially in grades 2-8.

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OYSTERFEST DOLLARS AT WORK IN THE COMMUNITY

GENERAL RULES:

1. Each student may exhibit **only one project**.
2. Class Exhibits are limited to grades K-3. The project must be prepared by the entire class. Three students are allowed at the fair to represent the class during judging.
3. The exhibit **MUST INCLUDE A NOTEBOOK** as described above in BASIC REQUIREMENTS - #4. The exhibitor's name or name of school **may not appear** on the exhibit, the notebook or the student's person. Proper identification will be provided by the Science Fair Committee.
4. Exhibitors **must** check in and complete most of the exhibit during the Set-Up period on Friday, and must be ready by 8:45 AM on Saturday morning, in order to be eligible for judging. The student exhibitor(s) **must be present** during judging. **Both team members must be present** if doing a team project.
5. Exhibitors must supply their own booth (back & sides) that must fit within a space 30" deep, 48" wide, and a total height of no more than 108" from floor level. The Fair provides tables 30" high. Oversized exhibits must be requested prior to setup. **Exhibitors who arrive with oversized exhibits may not be eligible to display their projects or receive awards.**
6. Titles, charts, and information sheets that describe your exhibit may be attached to the tables with **masking tape only**, provided by the exhibitor. *You may not write on the tables, walls or any school property.*
7. Exhibits with liquids or moist materials must use proper waterproof materials (tarps, suitable containers, etc) to prevent spillage or damage to the school property or other exhibits.
8. **Electrical power is available on a limited basis. Exhibit power needs must be noted on the application, or you may not have access to any power.** If you do not request power on your application, there is a good chance none will be available for your exhibit.
9. **The Fair Committee reserves the right to refuse any exhibit it considers unsafe or unsuitable.**
10. Team projects may be done by two students only, and no other projects may be submitted by either student.

THE FOLLOWING IS PROHIBITED AT THE SCIENCE FAIR:

- ▶ All open flames, including matches, and all dangerous chemicals. If your project requires open flame or dangerous chemicals, do the experiment before the Fair and have only the results at the Fair, shown in writing, drawings or photographs.
- ▶ Poisonous or dangerous animals, insects, reptiles, and vegetation. No exhibit may include placing undue stress or injury on any creature.
- ▶ Unfused voltages over 28 volts and uncovered electrical connections that present a safety hazard.
- ▶ Actions unbecoming a lady or gentleman, destruction of another's exhibit or property, or knowingly falsifying an exhibit.
- ▶ No knives, guns, or weapons of any kind are permitted. No operating rockets or missiles of any kind are permitted.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

1. All exhibits must remain in place until after the Awards Ceremony on Saturday afternoon, and must be removed by 3:30 PM. Remaining exhibits will be destroyed by the Fair Committee.
2. If an exhibitor finds that he/she is unable to attend the Fair after officially entering, please contact the Committee chairman or write Skookum Rotary, PO Box 849, Shelton, WA 98584 to cancel.
3. Most special problems and inquiries can be answered by you school science coordinator. If he / she is unable to answer your question, please contact the Fair Chairman.
4. The Mason County Science & Engineering Fair Committee, Skookum Rotary Club, and/or the Shelton School District 309 are not responsible for any loss, damage and/or injury during the Fair.
5. Exhibitors planning to enter the State Competition in Bremerton, WA or the International Competition are subject to the rules of those fairs. Copies of the appropriate rules can be obtained by contacting Olympic College Continuing Education Division at 360-478-4839, in Bremerton.

CHECKLIST FOR SCIENCE FAIR SUCCESS:

- ▶ A carefully planned and completed scientific exhibit
- ▶ A notebook detailing the scientific investigation
- ▶ A properly completed application form, turned in on time, **with all signatures** !
- ▶ A completed Science Fair Work Plan – *before you start the project, not afterwards.*
- ▶ **Read and follow all instructions carefully.** Failure to do so may disqualify your exhibit.

AWARDS:

- ★ Class projects for grades K-3 will be judged by grade. Multiple first, second and third place awards may be given per grade level. Additional awards may be given at the discretion of the Head Judge.
- ★ Individual projects for grades K-1 will be judged by grade. Multiple first, second, and third place awards may be given per grade. Additional awards may be given at the discretion of the Head Judge.
- ★ Individual projects in grades 2, 3, 4, 5 and grouped grades 6, 7 and 8 will be separated into judging categories based on the scientific content of each project, as follows:
 - Physical Science**- earth sciences, meteorology, chemistry, physics, etc.
 - Biological Sciences**- plant or animal projects, medicine, etc.
 - Mathematics** – statistics. Computer programming and related fieldsMultiple first, second and third place awards may be given. Additional awards may be given at the discretion of the Head Judge.
- ★ Special “**Best of Category**” & “**Best of Show**” awards will be selected from exhibits receiving First Place Awards. A special “Best of Class” award will be given to the best Class Project. There may be one “Best of Show” award in each of the following grade groupings: K-3, 4-5, 6-8.
- ★ A special trophy will be awarded to the school scoring the highest number of points: Best of Category = 5 pts, 1st=5 pts, 2nd=3 pts, 3rd=2 pts, Best Class= 3 pts, Participation=1pt.

- ★ All participants in the Saturday exhibit judging receive a Certificate of Participation and exhibit critique (judging opinions).
- ★ “World of Water” awards are the result of separate judging of individual exhibits that receive a “First” place award and cover topics of aquatic life related to water quality / water quality impacts on an ecosystem. The “World of Water” judging and awards are provided by South Sound Shellfish Growers.
- ★ Mason County PUD#3 provides the judging and awards for the Special Category Electricity exhibits.

JUDGING EXHIBITS:

Judging of exhibits is based upon the following criteria. The percentage of the final score for each judging category is shown at the right.

1.	Knowledge of Subject	25%
2.	Knowledge of Scientific Principles & Techniques	20%
3.	Notebook and Experimental Procedures	20%
4.	Creativity & Originality	20%
5.	Visual Appearance	15%

PARENT INFORMATION:

1. All work on the project must be done by the student. The parent’s role is advisory only.
2. Parents and adult friends of the exhibitor are invited to view the exhibit during the judging period on a “non-interference” basis. Parents may not assist the student in presenting the project.
3. Students must remain at their exhibit until 12:00 noon to explain the project to the judges and public observers.
4. Judging will be explained as to basis and methods. Judging of a specific exhibit will not be discussed. The decision of the judges is final.
5. Exhibits which do not follow the rules and regulations, including those without proper notebooks, work plans, signatures on applications, etc. **will not be eligible for awards.**

HINTS FOR SUCCESS:

- ▶ Do something **original**. Projects that are done every year, or by multiple students, do not tend to win prizes.
- ▶ Do your own work. Don’t copy other people’s work. And never copy books or articles. Put your research in your own words, and show that you understand it.
- ▶ If you are doing a team project, both members of the team must participate and be able to explain their project. One student may not do all the work.
- ▶ Be on time. Remain with your project for all judging. **Exhibits where students are not present at the time the judges come around will not be judged.**

**GOOD LUCK ON YOUR PROJECT!
WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT THE FAIR.**

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