

## Changes for the 2010 Elkhart Science Fair

Most of these changes are due to meeting the requirements for the regional and state science fairs. Many new rules were introduced to make certain that the safety of the student participants is the top priority. The ISEF (Indiana Science and Engineering Fair) is being held earlier than ever before so it has affected all regional and local science fairs.

**Prizes: Will continue as before.** All students actually presenting at the fair will receive a ribbon. Exceptional projects will earn an engraved medallion and a special science toy. Top projects in each of the grade groupings (K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12) will be awarded an engraved trophy, a special science present, and a check for \$75.00. The top project will be chosen from these trophy winners and will be receiving a check for \$150.00. The checks will be mailed to the students from the fair sponsors. **Students must be present at the award presentation ceremony (or represented by a parent/legal guardian) for the student to receive these awards.**

**Date:** Jan. 23, 2010, with entries due to Mr. Emery by Jan 8, 2010

The focus of the fair is on what the student learned during their scientific study.

**Abstract:** Grades 3-12 only

- Students need to include a short description of the science in their project. They need to include:
  - What they wanted to find out.
  - What they did, and
  - What they actually found out. See the Abstract Information sheet.

Students should plan to explain their project and only K-2 may demonstrate what they did. These students should also practice explaining their project to others before the fair. An abstract is not required but is encouraged because it can be the basis of their presentation.

**These restrictions** are in place to protect ALL students.

..... ALL Grades .....

- No living materials: plants, animals, molds, bacteria. Even flowers in pots. Photographs are encouraged!
- No liquids or chemicals of any kind.
- No glassware unless it is inside an essential and allowed piece of equipment.

..... 3-12 Grades only .....

- No extra equipment (Because experiments should not be demonstrated to judges there is no need for the neat, but unnecessary science materials such as electronic balances, pH meters, heaters, blowers, and others)
  - Essential equipment may include a computer that was needed to show the data collected and how it was studied.
- No equipment with moving parts in particular those with sharp points, possible pinch places, or areas where someone could become entangled.