



# Calling All Scientists

## The Perry Hill Science Fair Needs You



**Who:** Any Perry Hill Student  
(Participation is encouraged, but not required)

**When:** Thursday, February 14, 2019

**What:** Create a Science Fair Project Consisting of:

- Display Board
- Oral Presentation
- Written Research Report (Report Not Required in grades K-2)

**How:** Register for the fair, by completing a short online form found here <https://goo.gl/forms/p4sQkbrZcQFkriVy1> or at the site referenced below.

### **For More Information:**

Please see our Science Fair Website under the "Academics" tab on the Perry Hill website. Or go directly to:

<https://www.nacs.k12.in.us/domain/1459>

### **Also**

**Important:** Please see the reverse side of this announcement for details about what type of project you should do.

# What Kind of Project Should I Do?

Students are encouraged to do an “Experiment” type project. “Experiment” projects are the only projects that are eligible for 1st—3rd place ribbons. “Non-experiment” projects are allowed. However, they will not be eligible for ribbon consideration.

## *So...What is an “Experiment” project?*

**Be careful!** The word “*experiment*” is often misused in science project idea books and websites. For your project to be considered an experiment, it must meet the following criteria:

- Evidence of following the scientific method is present on the display board
- Variables are manipulated and controlled
- Data is collected, recorded, and interpreted. The data is present on the display board.

*It is highly recommended for collected data to be numerical rather than just observational. For example, in a mold growing experiment, you wouldn't want your data to be “really moldy” or “slightly moldy”. Instead, measure an actual amount of mold—30 square centimeters of mold, or 10 sq. cm. Numbers can be averaged and put into graphs and charts. General observations can not easily be put into graphs and charts.*

- An experiment is repeatable. Similar results should be collected and patterns should emerge from multiple trials.

**The project types listed below are acceptable, but NOT ELIGIBLE for placement ribbons.**

- **Demonstration:** *Showing a scientific principle in action*  
Examples: How does a magnet work? What is an electric circuit? Can air pressure crush a metal can?
- **Model:** *Making a smaller, less complicated version to demonstrate a science principle*  
Examples: Making a radio, a computer, a telescope, a volcano
- **Collection:** *Gathering and classifying objects to show a scientific principle*  
Examples: rock collections, insect collections, leaf collections
- **Survey:** *Collecting and interpreting data*  
(Surveys differ from experiments because variables are not manipulated and/or no scientific principle is illustrated.)  
Examples: Which fast food restaurant uses the most paper? Do girls or boys have longer “pinky” fingers? Which weather man had more accurate forecasts?

***No matter what project you choose, remember... judges are always impressed by original ideas and unique projects. In recent years, product testing projects have become very popular with students.... But NOT with the judges! Testing how many popcorn kernels pop, or which soap has the most suds, or which diaper holds the most liquid are good ways to practice using the scientific method.... But they are not very original.***