**Information for Parents**

WHY SHOULD STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN SCIENCE DAYS?

*Participation in science days helps students develop basic skills they will use daily throughout their life—to sense and clarify problems that exist, to conduct research, to find creative solutions to problems, and to communicate.

*Participation in science day gives students the opportunity to develop the skills, attitudes, and knowledge that will help them be comfortable and successful in an ever changing scientific, technological society.

*Preparing students for citizen participation in the development of science and technology policy and the utilization of science in everyday life are worthwhile goals often ignored in school curricula, that are achieved through a student research project.

*Science days offer students the opportunity to define a problem and to design an experiment that will attempt to solve or investigate that problem, thus enabling the student to learn through discovery a topic of their own interest.

*Students can win special recognition for achievement, certificates, cash awards and college scholarships.

*Top students can advance to State Science Day.

**APPREHENSIVE ABOUT SCIENCE FAIRS?**

If you have any questions or concerns please contact the Director, Mark J. Camp at 419-530-2398 or mark.camp@utoledo.edu

**DO YOUR YOUNG SCIENTISTS NEED IDEAS OR SUGGESTIONS?**

Try Science Fair Ideas
Also use the resources of your local library. Ask a librarian.

**SUGGESTED CALENDAR**

**Sept-Oct**  Students do background work and decide on project. Attend Science Star Search at the downtown Toledo-Lucas County Public Library on Thursday, October 2 from 5:30-8 PM.

Fill out forms necessary for project that need to be approved before research begins. [Approval Form (IB)] needs your signature. Dependent on project content you may need to sign [Risk Assessment Form (3)] and/or [Human Subjects and Informed Consent Form (4)]. **Have students fill out forms online, print copies, and sign.** Before entries are sent in February or early March you will also have to sign an individual/team registration and Consent and Release Agreement during the online registration process.

**Oct-Nov**  Project approved by teacher and/or Local Scientific Review Committee or Institutional Review Board. All forms signed by appropriate people **before** experimentation begins. **Keep the original copies** in your files and make two or three copies; one to be sent to NWDS, one to have at your child’s poster display on March 14, 2015, and one for his/her teacher to hold, if requested by the teacher. The only forms in which the original signed copy must be sent in are the Individual/Team Registration Form and the Consent and Release form; keep copies as above.

**Oct-Dec**  **After** project is approved student should:

- Conduct more background research
- Begin experimentation
- Collect data and draw conclusions
- Write research paper and include proper references
- Prepare presentation/poster board

**Dec-Feb**  Local fair at school, school district, county, etc.
Volunteer judges are needed for Northwest Ohio District Science Day. If you are interested contact your child's teacher or the Director of NWDSD or register on line by clicking here.

Registration for Northwest Ohio District 2 Science day is now online. Students should click here to begin registration. Follow the online instructions. The online registration will indicate what forms are necessary for each specific project. Make certain you sign the online registration form, the Consent and Release Agreement, and any other necessary forms and mail with the entry fee to Dr. Mark J. Camp, Department of Environmental Sciences, The University of Toledo, Toledo, OH 43606. Remember send copies and keep the originals except for the consent-release agreement; original signed consent-release agreement should be sent to NWDSD.

Make certain checks are made out to Northwest Ohio District Science Day. Fees are $20.00 per participant.

Feb. 23, 2015 Deadline for receipt of registrants for NWDSD. These should be superior projects. Teachers must submit a list of judges representing your child's school.

Mar 14, 2015 NWDSD at UT

Students should:

- Be at the University of Toledo by 8AM. Registration is from 7:30-8:45AM on second floor of Student Union. Follow the signs in the Student Union. You must register before setting up project.
- Bring poster board, research report, data logs, and copies of registration forms
- Do not bring experimental equipment, specimens, materials, chemicals, plants, animals, bacteria, etc.
- Remove project from 1:30-2:30.
- Attend awards ceremony at 2:30 in Memorial Field House Auditorium, Room 100 to qualify for State Science Day and receive special awards. Memorial Field House is just northwest of the Student Union.
Parents should:

- Park in West Parking Garage or Lot 13 on west side of campus, Lot 1S on east side, or Lot 5 or 10 on south side of river. See campus map. Arrive on campus by 8AM. Students must register on second floor of Student Union between 7:30-9AM before setting up project in the exhibit areas. Follow signs once in Student Union.
- Leave exhibit areas by 9AM. You may re-enter at Noon when judging is completed. The Union has a lounge area and food service.

Directly after NWDS

- For those whose son and/or daughter has qualified for State Science Day make certain you understand what is needed for registering. If you have any questions or concerns please contact Mark J. Camp at 419-530-2398 or mark.camp@utoledo.edu Visit the State Science Day website for details.
- Any problems with sponsored awards--also contact Dr. Camp.

**May 16, 2015** [State Science Day] at OSU

**WHAT ABOUT REJUDGING?**

A team of two judges will judge each project following Ohio Academy of Science standards. If each judge grants a total score within any one rating category (Superior, Excellent, Good, or Satisfactory), that specific rating (Superior, Excellent, Good, Satisfactory) will be granted to the student and no rejudging is permitted. Rejudging is automatic and is permissible only if all three of the following conditions apply:

a. the judges' final ratings are in different categories,

b. the average of the judges' scores is in the lower category, and

c. if the judges differ in their total points by more than five points.
HOW ARE STUDENTS CHOSEN TO ATTEND STATE SCIENCE DAY?

Each district in the state of Ohio has a quota for students who may participate in State Science Day at the Ohio State University in Columbus, OH. The quota for our district is . The procedure for choosing students to fill this quota is:

1. All 7 to 12th graders with 40 points, in descending grade order (i.e. 12, 11, 10, 9, 8, 7) are chosen first.
2. All 7 to 12th graders with 39 points, in descending grade order are chosen next.
3. Next, students with 38 points are chosen in descending class order (grade 12,11,10,9,8,7).
4. Then, students with 37 points are chosen in descending class order (grade 12,11,10,9,8,7).
5. Finally 7 to 12th graders with 36 points in descending grade level are chosen.
6. If there are more qualifiers in the final grade/numerical score division than quota positions, the final group will be determined by random draw (i.e. If there are 5 positions and 8 freshmen with 37’s, the 5 participants will be determined by random draw of these 8 students).
7. Alternates will be selected via random drawing following the same guidelines as above.
8. If the quota is not filled with the above procedure, 5th and 6th graders will be selected in a similar manner starting with 6th graders with 40 points, 5th graders with 40 points, 6th graders with 39 points, etc.

ALL STUDENTS INTENDING TO COMPETE AT STATE SCIENCE DAY MUST ATTEND THE AWARDS CEREMONY IN MEMORIAL FIELDHOUSE 100 (Auditorium) OR HAVE SOMEONE, REPRESENTING THEM ATTEND IN THEIR PLACE. STATE QUALIFIERS WILL BE GIVEN AN ENTRY PACKET AT THE AWARDS CEREMONY AND MUST MAIL THIS IN WITH RESPECTIVE FEES AS INSTRUCTED IN THE PACKET, POSTMARKED BY TUESDAY, March 17, 2015. PLEASE READ THE INSTRUCTIONS INCLUDED WITH EACH ENTRY PACKET IMMEDIATELY AS THERE ARE IMPORTANT DEADLINES GIVEN. These need to be filled out on-line, printed, and then sent to SSD. Note that you will need
internet access to complete this registration. Contact Director Mark J. Camp at 419-530-2398 or mark.camp@utoledo.edu if you have problems.

State Science Day for 2015 will be held at the Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio on May 16th. For information on State Science Day go to http://www.ohiosci.org/ssd.htm.

Summary of Parent Responsibilities

- Complete all necessary registration papers, signing where required at appropriate time, usually before experimentation begins. **Remember registration is now done online.**
- View website http://www.utoledo.edu/nsm/envsciences/camp/index.html (click on Science Day) periodically for updates about NWSD
- Make certain deadlines are met. Completed registrations are due at NWSD by February 23, 2015.
- Keep project on display at NWSD until 1:30 so public may view projects beginning at noon.
- Attend NWSD Awards Ceremony at 2:30 in Memorial Fieldhouse 100.