

General Information and Rules

1. Projects That Are Not Allowed

No student at Great Oaks will be allowed to design or conduct any science project that involves:

- Firearms, explosives, or discharge air pressure canister devices
- Growing bacteria or mold at home
- Causing pain, suffering, sickness, or death of an animal
- Any activity or substance that presents a danger to the student or the environment, including hazardous chemicals or radioactive materials

2. Display and Safety Guidelines

Items Not Allowed

- No organisms; living, dead or preserved (plants or animals)
- No human/animal parts or body fluids (for example, blood)
- No human or animal food
- No bacteria or mold cultures (this includes mold growing)
- No liquids—laboratory/household chemicals including water
- No poisons, drugs, controlled or hazardous substances
- No sharp items (for example: syringes, needles, pipettes, knives, tracks, nails)
- No glass or glass objects
- No pressurized tanks or containers
- No batteries with open top cells (so that battery acid can be seen)
- No dirt, soil, gravel, rocks, sand, waste product, etc.
- No project, device, activity, or substance that may be deemed hazardous to student health or safety.

3. Allowed and Encouraged Items for Display

- Photographs, drawings, stuffed animals/artificial plants, or imitation (play) food should be used to depict the prohibited or discouraged items.
- Be sure to properly credit/acknowledge all photographers on the display board (Photograph taken by...)
- Students should always plan on taking photographs of their project steps as a visual explanation of their effort.
- Students may use a computer and printer for written parts of the project.
- Electrical projects may use batteries as sources of electricity.

4. Display Board

Written material, drawings, and pictures should be securely attached to the display board.

5. Electricity for Your Display

- Electrical projects may use batteries as sources of electricity

6. Parental Help

Some students are fortunate to have parents who have time to help them. However, parents who do the thinking or build the project for them do not really help students. Parents are encouraged to help their children in these ways:

- Read and discuss this packet
- Select projects which are appropriate for the child's age and grade level
- Plan and manage project work times and clean-up times
- Take your child to the public library or other places for research
- Listen to your child's oral explanation of the project
- Ensure the child's safety
- **Students must list any parental help in the References and Acknowledgements section of the project**