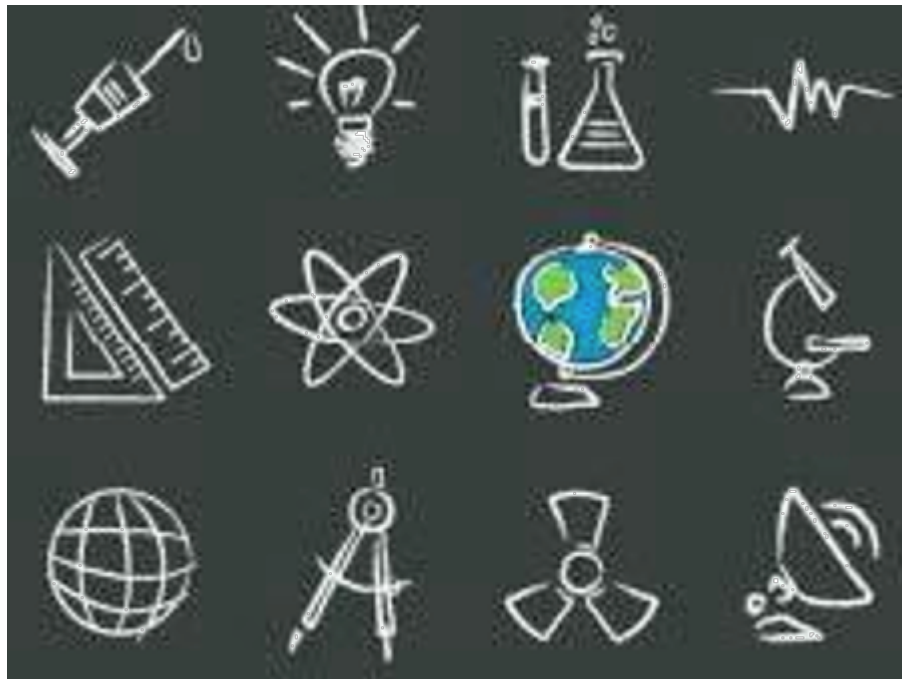


Student and Parent Guide

Science Wonders

2017



Las Lomitas Science Fair

6:00 – 8:00PM Thursday, May 11
Cano Hall, Las Lomitas Elementary School

DISCOVER SOMETHING NEW!

What is Science Wonders? Science Wonders is a science fair event to encourage your children to be inquisitive about the world around them. Most importantly, this is an opportunity to have FUN while sharing the joy of discovery with your children.

Where do we start?

Step 1: Ask a question! Think of something that excites or interests you.

Step 2: Think of how you can find an answer (hint: there are many great books in the Las Lomitas Library and on websites listed in the packet).

Step 3: Write or draw what you saw.

Step 4: Decide the best way to present your “wonder” to your schoolmates.

Will my child’s project be judged? This is a recreational, voluntary activity, designed to be NON-COMPETITIVE and child-driven. Please do this activity with your child after their schoolwork assignments. There will be no judging or class merit for participation, but each child will receive a certificate or completing a science fair project.

Can we still come if we don’t participate this year? Yes! Everyone is welcome to come to the event and view all the projects.

How do I sign up? Although not required, an RSVP to Scott & Dawn Smithson at sciencewonders@llpta.org by **Friday, May 5** would be appreciated for coordination purposes.

Questions? Please visit laslomaspta.org/programs/sciencewonders for details or email sciencewonders@llpta.org.

KEY DATES AND TIMES

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| SETUP: | 2:00 – 5:00PM, Thursday, May 11. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students set up their project displays in Cano Hall. |
| EXHIBITION: | 6:00 – 8:00PM, Thursday, May 11. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students, friends and family are invited to view projects. |
| TAKE DOWN: | 2:00 – 4:00PM, Friday, May 12. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students remove their projects from Cano Hall. |

STUDENTS! Here are the steps:

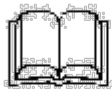
STEP 1: Ask a question! Think of something that excites or interests you. This could be something that has to do with dogs, seaweed, water, stars, dirt ... As long as this excites you to think ...

Hummmmm ... Draw or write whatever makes you ponder.

*You can answer this 'I wonder...' question and share your answer by choosing to do a demonstration or an experiment! Look at the **IDEA HELPERS** section for examples of a demonstration and an experiment.*

STEP 2: Think how can you find an answer! There are many ways...

- Do you already know some of the answer from your teachers?
- Can you find answer by carefully seeing or observing?
- Will you make or test something to get your answer?
- Will you read or hear about it from books that you have at home or from the library?



GO TO THE LIBRARY!

*Look at the **IDEA HELPERS** section for a list of some of the many exciting books at the Las Lomas library.*

- Can your mom or dad help you use the computer to find the answer?



USE THE INTERNET!

*Look at the **IDEA HELPERS** section for a list of some exciting websites.*

STEP 3: Write or draw what you saw! When you find your answer, write or draw:



STEP 4: Decide the best way to show and share your wonder and findings with your schoolmates.

- Will you want a poster board with your drawings and pictures?
- Will you want to bring in some of the books you used?
- If you did an experiment, will you want to bring in your supplies and your answer?

*When you decide,
put your Science Wonder together
and bring it to the exhibition.*

DEMONSTRATION EXAMPLES

In a **demonstration**, you show the information or facts that you have gathered to answer your question. The information may be found in books, magazines or talking to your parents or friends.

Step 1: I wonder... *What does a baby butterfly look like?*

Step 2: I look through books and ask my parents about butterflies.

Step 3: I learn that butterflies are hatched from tiny eggs, become caterpillars, and make chrysalises.

Step 4: To share my findings, my parents and I paste my drawings and pictures from magazines onto a large poster board. I also bring along my old butterfly puppet to show the butterfly wings.

In another example...

Step 1: I wonder... *How do flowers drink water?*

Step 2: I collect three flowers (carnations). I put each flower in a glass that contains food coloring. I wait overnight and observe my project in the morning.

Step 3: I learn that flowers drink water through their stems.

Step 4: To share my findings, my parents and I bring my flowers (before and after coloring) to Science Wonders. We also bring information that we find in the library about flower parts.

EXPERIMENT EXAMPLE

In an **experiment**, you will try to answer your question by bringing together supplies, carefully watching and recording what happens. To make sure that the 'I wonder' question is answered correctly, you may need to repeat it.

Step 1: I wondered...

What will happen if I put my jelly bears in water?

Step 2: What I did was to gather a red 'jelly bear' candy and a large, glass dish. I filled the dish with lots of water. I put the red 'jelly bear' into the dish. As I saw the changes, I got a ruler to measure it. I also looked at the time. To see if it would happen again, I tried the same thing with a green 'jelly bear'.

Step 3: What I learned after watching the 'jelly bear' in water for several days, I saw changes! I drew pictures of the 'jelly bear' each day. I also used my ruler and wrote down the time. You'll have to come to Science Wonders to see my answer!

Step 4: To show and share my wonder and findings, I drew pictures of the red and green 'jelly bears' as they changed. I also wrote the number and time changes in a book. We pasted some of my drawings onto the poster board. I brought the poster board and my book with me. I brought a sample of the 'jelly bears' to show people how they looked at first. I also brought one of the 'jelly bears' I put in water.

CHECK OUT THE LIBRARY !

The Las Lomas library has many books about science. For example:

Backyard Science
How Do Things Grow
Incredible Edible Science
More Science Surprises from Dr. Zed
My Big Science Book

There are lots of books, and the librarians will help you. Go and see for yourself!

EXPLORE THE INTERNET

Check out these cool websites, starting with the Las Lomas library's website:

<http://www.llesd.k12.ca.us/science.htm>

<http://www.hhmi.org/coolscience/>

<http://www.energyquest.ca.gov/projects/index.html>

<http://ed.gov/parents/academic/help/science/index.html>

<http://www.madsci.org>

<http://www.sciencemadesimple.com>

<http://easy-kids-science-experiments.com>

<http://sciencewithme.com>

<http://www.sln.org/resources/index.html>

What did our young scientists WONDER about in previous Las Lomas science fairs?

There were Kindergarten scientists who WONDERED...

- Do bugs have bones?
- How long does it take to digest food?
- Why does the sunshine darken our skin?

There were 1st Grade scientists who WONDERED...

- How do strawberries ripen?
- How do sea stars stick to rocks?
- Why does the ground move in an earthquake?

There were 2nd Grade scientists who WONDERED...

- How does a submarine go up and down?
- Why do I have to wash my hands?
- How is snow made?

There were 3rd Grade scientists who WONDERED...

- Why do onions make you cry?
- How fast can a hermit crab walk?
- What makes fingerprints?

What will YOU wonder about this year?

DISPLAY GUIDELINES

- Be sure to include your name, grade, teacher and title on the display.
- Each scientist will typically have a table space of 3 feet wide by 2 feet deep to display his/her project.
- Presentations should be free standing. Many poster boards are free standing and can be purchased at craft stores (i.e. Michaels).
- Decide which objects, books, and materials to bring to display and help explain your project. (Note that whatever you bring will have wear and tear after two days of use by many little hands. Delicate pieces may become broken or lost. Please do not bring valuables.)
- **BE SAFE.** Keep food items sealed. Don't bring toxic materials. If you bring live animals, an adult must be present at the project at all times and you must notify the event coordinator listed below in advance for permission. If your display might include, involve, cause, or produce substance that may cause harm to your neighbor's display – such as, water, wind, heat, etc. – notify the event coordinator in advance.
- There are always exceptions to the typical display format. Some displays may need to be wall mounted, require an electric plug, etc. In such cases, please contact the event coordinator in advance.