

2012 SCIENCE FAIR INFORMATION

It's time for interested students to prepare science projects in anticipation of science fairs in 2012. Following is the schedule for upcoming science fair activities:

February 24 Deadline for application to both Billings Science Expo and Montana Tech Regional Science and Engineering Fair

February 28 Silver Bow Montessori School Science Fair

March 1 Montana Tech Regional Science and Engineering Fair (Division II, Grades 5-8)

March 18-20 Montana State Science Fair (Missoula, for winners at MT Tech grades 6+ only)

March 23-24 Billings Science Expo (grades 1 and up, but *teams not allowed*)

Science fair projects are challenging for elementary students and are most doable by **fourth to sixth year students**. The school's policy on science fair participation is as follows:

Fifth and sixth years	Very strongly encouraged
Fourth years	Encouraged to try something
Third years	Invited to try something if a student really wants to
First and second years	Very optional

For fifth and sixth year students, the science fair is a competitive event with a strong emphasis on experimental method and proper procedure/documentation. The younger the student, the more the science project can be just a fun demonstration.

The initial focus for all interested students will be the **SBM school science fair**. Please let a teacher know if you are interested in helping with the school science fair or with helping to mentor a student.

The **Montana Tech Science and Engineering Fair** is open only to students *grades five and older*. Teams are allowed in the junior division of the MT Tech fair.

During the past several years, several SBM families have made a trip to Billings for the **Billings Science Expo**. This can be a great event and is the only opportunity in Montana for students in grades one through four to compete in a sanctioned regional science fair. The school will help facilitate the Billings Science Expo as an optional trip for students desiring to compete in a regional science fair and enjoy the "Expo." Application packages are available at school and online. Don is planning to attend this year and will help organize SBM's contingent in Billings to the extent that there is a desire to participate. This event is totally optional.