

## **ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **The student's role is to:**

- Select a topic for the project following science fair guidelines and gain approval for the project;
- Complete a controlled experiment, investigation, model, collection, or demonstration of a scientific principle (grade level guidelines might specify specific types of projects);
- Construct an exhibit and, when the grade level is appropriate, write a report explaining the project and the scientific principles involved;
- Use scientific terms and the steps of the scientific method in the display and report; and
- Follow science fair safety guidelines.

### **The teacher's role is to:**

- Determine the appropriateness of project ideas submitted;
- Motivate students and serve as an advisor and promoter of creativity;
- Help contact resource people for projects
- Arrange for special equipment if needed and possible; and
- Maintain a safe environment.

### **The parents' role is to:**

- Provide information on the topic as a resource person;
- Furnish or purchase supplies and needed equipment;
- Transport their child(ren) to the library, stores, or resource people;
- Provide space in the home for their child(ren) to work on the project;
- Provide encouragement to their child(ren), who is the primary person completing the project; and
- Ensure student safety and follow the district safety guidelines.

## **CATEGORIES OF PROJECTS**

Botany: Plants, agriculture, conservation, and forestry. Live plants may be displayed, but pictures are preferred. No fungi or molds may be displayed!

Earth & Environmental Science: Geology, geography, global changes, weather patterns, climate change, recycling, pollution, animal extinctions.

Zoology: Researching and observing animal (vertebrates and invertebrates) behavior, growth, genetics, paleontology. No animals are to be harmed in science fair experiments. No live animals or preserved vertebrates may be displayed!

Health and Behavioral Science: Emphasis on human health and behavior. Surveys involving other students (such as taste preferences) must be monitored by an adult.

Physical Science: Physics, chemistry, astronomy, etc.

Mathematics & Computer Science: Demonstrating math principles or computer systems or software.

