

SCIENCE FAIR WITH AN ENERGY EFFICIENCY FLAIR

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Overview: To get the Energy Conservation message out to our entire community by organizing a school-wide Science Fair with an emphasis on Energy Efficiency, and Environmental Education.

Objectives: The objectives are to promote conserving energy to community, integrate energy conservation into an education curriculum, and allow local residents to recognize students' progress.

Subjects: Science, specifically Energy Efficiency/Conservation

Suggested Grade Level: Can be modified for grades 3 – 12

Time: Weeks; the length of a science fair curriculum

Materials:

1. Meter-Comparator
 2. Brochures and fact sheets
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PREPARATION AND BACKGROUND

Most schools engage students in science fairs as a part of the science curriculum, in order to expose them to the scientific method. The goal here would be to integrate an environmental education flair of energy conservation and efficiency into a school-wide science fair. By doing so, the concept of conserving energy will be delivered to our whole community.

PROCEDURE

1. Invite all classes to participate by doing projects to display on their class tables
2. Invite local environmental organizations to have a display, borrow artifacts from scientific groups to display
3. Develop Energy Facts sheet to hand out
4. Students plan energy presentations and displays
 - a. Obtain energy audit and energy saving tips brochure to hand out
 - b. Students make posters, tip cards, or videos
5. Sell compact fluorescent bulbs as a community service and display our energy efficient and non-energy efficient classroom models
6. Students help younger students to set up their projects

FOR DISCUSSION

Hold a brainstorming session with class on the types of activities to have at the Science Fair that will help attendees understand why saving energy is important.

EXTENSIONS

- Develop a follow-up evaluation and hand them out.
- Invite local news, or representatives from your local utility or energy office
- Invite parents and community members to learn about how to control their own energy use

RESOURCES

1. Watt meter to demonstrate energy consumption use of incandescent light bulbs as compared to compact fluorescent
2. Brochures from US Department of Energy, Alliance to Save Energy, and your local Utility.