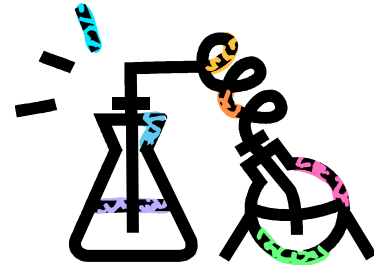


Independent Investigation

Parent Letter

The object of this assignment is for the student to use the scientific method to explore an area of science to learn more about how the natural world around us works. When the student has completed this project, they will have demonstrated an understanding of the scientific method, and be able to clearly explain a scientific principle. Projects may explore any area of science from biology to astrophysics using inquiry based methods. Students have been encouraged to think about what they would like to find out about, and to spend time looking through their science papers, books, talking to adults they know and any other source they can think of to find something that will interest them. The students will receive guidance and support at school but the project is meant to be worked on and completed at home. To help the student keep up with their work on the project there will be separate due dates for the different parts of the project and each part will count as a separate grade. Students are encouraged to get help from other members of their family. Students are welcome to bring their work to school if they want to receive extra help after school.

Name _____
Date _____ Class _____
Parent _____



<i>Investigation Sections</i>	<i>Points possible</i>
Parent Letter	5
Brainstorm Ideas	10
Purpose	20
Background Research	15
Scientific Question	15
Hypothesis	10
Procedure	25
Observations	15
Analyzing Data	15
Conclusion	20
Trifold presentation of investigation	25
Presentation of project	25
Total points	200 pts

As each step of the project is completed and checked, students will receive detailed information on how to complete the next steps of their investigation. This project will represent a great percentage of your child's final grade. Please sign in the box at the top of this page to indicate that you have discussed with your child the importance of putting a lot of effort into completing this project.

List the six steps of the scientific method:

1.	4.
2.	5.
3.	6.

Some web resources that could help:

<http://www.cool-science-projects.com/independent-and-dependent-variables.html>

www.sciencebuddies.org/science-fair-projects/project_ideas.shtml

<http://www.all-science-fair-projects.com>

<http://www.terimore.com/science-fair-projects/popular-science-fair-projects.htm>

<http://school.discoveryeducation.com/sciencefaircentral>

<http://www.homeworkspot.com/middle/science>