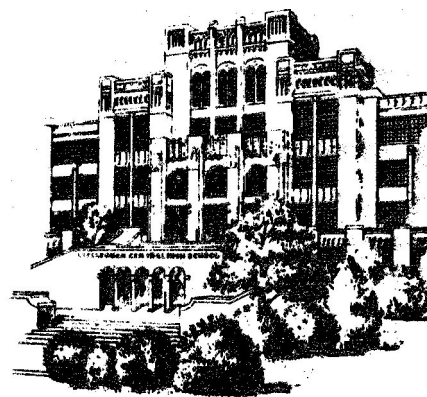


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February 1, 2012

To: All Pre-AP Science Students and Parents
From: LRCHS Science Faculty
Re: Independent Research Project

An independent research project is a requirement for all students in the Pre-AP science program at LRCHS. This requirement is aligned with the Arkansas Science Frameworks. Participation in the LRCHS science fair is strongly encouraged, but not mandatory.

In order to be fully prepared for the 2012-13 school year, we strongly recommend that our students complete the following tasks during the summer:

- 1) Review all documents on the following website: <http://www.lrcentralhigh.org/sciencefairforms.htm>
- 2) Select a topic to research. The student will design their own investigations regarding on a specific aspect of this topic. Categories include: Animal Sciences, Behavioral and Social Sciences, Biochemistry, Cellular and Molecular Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Earth Science, Materials and Bioengineering, Electrical and Mechanical Engineering, Energy and Transportation, Environmental Analysis, Environmental Management, Mathematics, Medicine and Health Sciences, Microbiology, Physics and Astronomy, Plant Sciences.
- 3) Research the topic and secure at least **three major (non-encyclopedia and non .com)** sources. Also, talk to professionals in the field, write or e-mail prospective companies for specific information, and obtain or construct needed equipment.
- 4) Be prepared to submit a description of the topic you selected and all sources for approval at the beginning of the school year.
- 5) Keep an up to date project data book. Accurate and detailed notes will help you produce a logical and worthwhile paper. Good notes show consistency and thoroughness, and will be instrumental for writing the research paper. The project data book is your record of the progress that you have made, and will include how you selected your topic, sources you found, and ideas for the design of the experiment.

For additional information visit your public library to find various books on how to produce a successful project. Also, type "science projects" at any search engine prompt. Helpful information for students and parents, and ISEF Rules and forms can be downloaded at

<http://www.societyforscience.org/isef>

We look forward to working with you next year.