

ENTOMOLOGICAL FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES COMPETITION FOR SCIENCE PROJECT IDEAS

The Entomological Foundation is conducting a contest to identify “top 10” science project ideas for students, teachers, and families. Elementary, middle, and high school teachers, students, and parents are always looking for exciting ideas for science projects. In response to this growing need, Dr. Nan-Yao Su and Dr. Nancy Beckage are co-sponsoring a contest which will culminate with a creation of a web site containing a collection of science project ideas, based on grade level, the majority of which will involve insects or be built around an entomological question. Contest winners will receive a check for \$100 per project idea for each submission making the “top 10” list. The Entomological Foundation is especially looking for project ideas submitted by entomology student clubs.

The Entomological Foundation is requesting that projects be designed to be doable and exciting for students as well as interesting and exciting for teachers and families. The goal is to develop an interest and understanding of scientific laws and principles that underlay the natural world. Authorship credit will be cited for submitted science project published on the Entomological Foundation’s web site.

Any project ideas that relate to insects, spiders, or related arthropods are welcome. Contest entries will be accepted beginning August 2 and will close on October 18, 2010. Winners will be announced at the ESA annual meeting this December in San Diego, California. See below for submission guidelines.

Submission Guidelines

1. Please submit your project in MS Word, 11 font. Please include photographs and/or illustrations to help the student conduct the experiment.
2. Submit your project to April at april@entfdn.org You may submit as many projects as you wish. The deadline is October 18, 2010
3. Format for submitting your project:
 - Title of the experiment
 - Submitted by: (Your name and affiliation)
 - Grade level(s) targeted (We are looking for projects suitable for elementary, middle and high school students)
 - Observations
 - Question (The project should contains a question that catches a student’s imagination)
 - Hints to form the hypothesis
 - Hypothesis
 - Materials needed (List the materials needed)
 - The Experiment (Write out the “step-by-step” procedure to conduct the experiment)
 - Result (Present the results)
 - Discussion (Suggestions for presenting the findings)
 - References (List references to help the student in conducting the experiment, preferably found on the Internet)
 - Estimated time required and cost to conduct the experiment. (The experiment should be very simple to conduct and can be done by using common household items.)

Sample: <http://www.entfdn.org/sciencefairexperiments.htm>

Note: When submitting your project ideas, please indicate if you would be willing to be identified as a contact for further questions by the users of the site. Our plans are to identify and include on the web site a “mentor” or resource for each listed project.

Questions? If you have any questions, please contact April Gower at the Entomological Foundation, 301-459-9083 or april@entfdn.org