

Varner Elementary Science Fair Parent Letter

December 18, 2015

Dear Parents,

Varner is excited to announce that our **3rd Annual Science Fair** is coming! We hope that, with your enthusiastic encouragement, your student will participate in the fair by doing an experiment. Varner is looking for young, eager scientists willing to do a little experimentation and show us those answers. This will be an exciting experience for your child!



Parent support and assistance are essential to your child's success.

A general rule of thumb to go by is:

- Kindergarteners and 1st graders will need help for most of the project.
- 2nd and 3rd graders should be able to do many parts.
- 4th and 5th graders should be doing almost the entire science project by themselves.

We are confident the following benefits will result from your child's participation in the Science Fair:

- Reinforcement of grade level science, literacy and math skills
- Fostering curiosity, awareness, and creativity
- Increased scientific knowledge
- Learning research techniques
- Growth in ability to work independently
- Having fun with science!

In addition to the opportunity to work on a project, the Science Fair provides students with an increased awareness of science and an opportunity for them to develop positive attitudes about themselves and their work. The science project allows children to use critical thinking and problem solving skills learned in science and in math. Looking for great **science project ideas?** www.sciencebuddies.org/

The Science Fair **Project Selection Form** is accessible on the school's website. If you do not have access to the internet, at this time, please have your child stop by the front office for the Science Fair **Project Selection Form**. Please complete the form with your child and **have your child return it to the front office by Wednesday, January 9, 2015.**

**For all information about the Varner Science Fair
check the school website at the following address:**

<http://www.cobbk12.org/varner/>

"Science is not merely a collection of facts printed in an encyclopedia. It is a living adventure of the human spirit." (Source unknown).



VARNER ELEMENTARY SCIENCE FAIR PROJECT SELECTION FORM

- Return this form to the Front Office by Wednesday, January 9th, 2015

Student's first and last name (printed please) _____

Grade _____ Teacher's Name _____

- Parent/Guardian's signature _____

THE ORIGINAL **SCIENCE QUESTION** (KNOWN AS A **PROBLEM**) YOUR PROJECT WILL ANSWER (SOLVE) IS:

Our project will be (please check one):

_____ **EXPERIMENT** (Kindergarten through 5th grade) - You will conduct an experiment to find the answer to your question/problem. The Scientific Method will take you through the correct process of asking a question, doing some preliminary research, making a hypothesis (your best guess at how it will turn out), planning and conducting your experiment, and analyzing your results.

_____ **RESEARCH PROJECT** (Kindergarten through 5th grade) - Somebody has already found the answer to your question/problem, and you will look for their answer/solution by reading books, talking to experts, and gathering information from other sources such as schools and public libraries. Your display board will have drawings, photographs, charts, graphs, dioramas, etc. *Examples: How does a solar cell work? How does a light bulb operate?*

How do clouds form?

Each science fair project must consist of a *student-led* scientific investigation that follows the scientific method. Models, including volcanoes or robots, will not be accepted. Biological and zoological projects need prior approval.

Keep in Mind: Parents are encouraged to guide students but not build the project. Remember, a good project is planned and developed over a period of time.