Science Fair Central

Timeline for Completing a Science Fair Project

Start with the end in mind

Usually, it will take about two weeks to prepare the presentation. So the investigation phase, including collecting all the data, has to be done before then.

- Mark your calendar for the date that the presentation displays must be delivered to the school (usually one or two days before the science fair).
- Back it up two weeks. That's when the data collection has to be completed. Mark the date.
- Back that up the amount of time it will take to buy or obtain materials, set up the investigations and complete collecting the data, 3 – 4 weeks depending on the project. Mark that date.
- Back that up a week for topic choice and background research. Mark the date and get started!

Sample Timeline for Science Fair Project – 6 Week Example

Activity	Time BSF (Before the Science Fair)
Decide on topic and develop question or solution	6 weeks to go
Background research on topic	6 weeks to go
Determine materials and purchase them	5 weeks to go
Set up project and begin to collect data	5 - 4 weeks to go (depending on project)
Prepare project display	2 weeks to go
Prepare oral presentation	1 week to go
Deliver presentation display to school	1 day to go
Science Fair Day	0

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