**15.3 INTER SCHOOL SCIENCE FAIR**

**Aims and objectives**

* The science fair is a fair where students present their science project results in the form of a report, display board and models that students have created.
* Purpose of science fair is to instill scientific attitude in the young generation to make them realize interdependence of science, technology and the society.
* Science fair provides a platform for the students and teachers where they can learn from each other’s experiences and got motivated to designed and develop something new and innovative.
* A science fair is one of the unique ways of celebrating science.
* It provides the opportunity for students, teachers and other people to improve their understanding in science.
* Share their research projects and investigations.
* Science fair is a form of knowledge-building and social development event.
* To have fun exploring science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).
* To understand the practical application and utility of science.
* To see the performance of other students and their work.
* To create interest in students and to make science learning joyful.
* Encouraging scientific and technological creativity among students and inculcating a sense of pride in their talents.
* Acquire knowledge, conceptual understanding and skills to solve problems and make informed decisions in scientific and other contexts.
* Basically, one of the creativities for the science fair is the showcasing of the students’ investigatory and research projects.

**Basic steps in conducting a successful science fair**

* A science fair should be prepared 2-3 months ahead of the actual fair date.
* To start organizing the science fair, formation of the group is required, who will be responsible for the conceptualization and the implementation of it in the science fair.
* It could be a group of teachers, students and researchers among others.

**Set goals for the science fair**

* The science fair should be celebrated for a reason.
* Set goals for the program and objectives which the participants have to achieve at the end of the fair.
* Make the experience positive for the participants, they should feel a sense of accomplishment at the end.
* Ample opportunity should be provided for the students to show case what they researched or developed.

**Set the date and venue**

* Location is to be set that can accommodate the expected participants and the material that is needed in the fair including the furniture, and display board etc.
* A date should be chosen when school has the least academic activity.

**Creative and interactive activities**

* Devise other fun and creative and interactive activities such as science inspired games.
* Prominent resource speakers can also be invited to have talk about any selected subject.

**Plan the schedule**

* Plan the schedule of the fair.
* Distribution of invitation is required for a sizable attendance.
* Calculate the amount of time for each activity.
* The preparation should be started the day before the fair’s date,
* Allocate the time for booths visit.

**Parent participation**

* Parents play an important role in supporting their children throughout the duration of the science fair process.
* They can also be of a huge help by volunteering to help before and during the fair itself.
* Start off on the right foot.
* Establish good communication with parents early on so they understand expectations and anticipate deadlines

**Other activities and arrangement for science fair**

* Staff and volunteers recruitment.
* Distribute certificates and awards.
* Invite visitors.
* Register the participants.
* Orient the judges, if appointed.
* Monitor the fair, tabulate the scores.
* Evaluate the program when it is over, and
* Publicize the fair.

**Conclusion/project report**

A good science fair project also requires writing a clear scientific report. The purpose of a science fair project report is to carefully describe the results and the scientific process you used so that other people can understand your project and may even reproduce it themselves;

* Summarize your science fair project results in a few sentences and use this summery to support your conclusion,
* Include key facts from your background research to help explain your results as needed,
* If appropriate, state the relationship between the independent and dependent variable,
* Summarize and evaluate your experimental procedure, making comments about its success and effectiveness.
* Suggest changes in the experimental procedure (or design and/or possibilities for future studies.