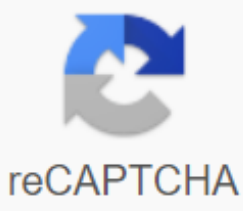




I'm not robot



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Science fair project how much sugar in drinks

Watch your child's competition at the science fair, you'll creep in on how expensive other students' projects seem. One built a solar-powered robot from scratch. Another is coolly standing in front of a poster lit by strings of light with an iPod playing background music. Don't despair. Your child can still do good science and win over the judges without emptying his wallet. In fact, the glamour of expensive projects will not replace experimental design and creativity. Although the presentation matters, the quality of the project and your child's enthusiasm are more important. Whether a competition encourages budding scientists to describe nature or requires them to develop solutions to real problems, approaching a project with an organized, scientific approach will guide your child through a process that is both enriching and fun. Ad Help your child choose a topic that interests him will not only reduce costs (because he will approach the business with more creativity), it will also ensure that he sticks to it for the days and weeks to follow. Remember, cheap science fair projects can even examine everyday issues your child may encounter. For example, does brand grainreally taste better than its generic counterparts? While cleaning the garage, he may ask why new tennis balls seem to bounce higher than older [source: Bleeker]. Let's look at tips that spur creativity and keep costs down. Content Before choosing a science fair topic – and buying supplies for it – sit down with your child to review the school's rules and timeline. Discussing the parameters of a project in advance will also help you determine whether an idea can be tested in a specific time period and on budget. With a handy mind-set, you and young Einstein can narrow the project's focus enough to prevent mix-ups along the way. Say your younger scientists want to plant vegetable plants outside during the coldest month of winter. It is not possible to conduct experiments if you do not live in warm enough temperatures to dig into the ground. Instead, wait until the weather is warmer or pursue something else to avoid buying indoor heat lamps and other expensive supplies. You want nature and time on your side. Ad Thinking handy can also include framing projects around holidays. A middle school fair project tested the rate at which Christmas tree needles fell off when dressed with various decorative candles [source: Glidden]. The experiment was practical: The student worked with a tree company to take unwanted treetops left over from vacation. Her experiment suggested that a type of light caused fewer needles to fall and even emitted less heat. When it comes to buying supplies, keeping costs down can be as simple as using a calendar. Click to the next page to find out more. Frantic, late-night travel trips the shop at Science Fair Eve not only chip away at your downtime, they can also put a dent in your wallet, because you are more likely to settle for more expensive supplies of desperation. You are a practical person, so avoid the trap by scoping out prices and selling in advance. The majority of projects require a final poster board or visual presentation describing your little prodigy's performance. Most projects also require scissors, tape, glue, printing ink cartridges, rulers, cans, timers, thermometers, pens and markers, among

others. If white tablecloths aren't provided at the fair, look out for an inexpensive material to place during your child's presentation as well. Ad the idea is to create shortcuts that will not compromise quality. Recycling supplies or paper can be cheaper and equally efficient. Making your own supplies can save you some money too. A wind turbine experiment uses a recycled, washed milk carton to serve as the object's base [source: California Energy Commission]. Don't be afraid to be innovative. Buying supplies in bulk or encouraging students to collaborate for projects, if allowed, can cover costs as well. Our next tip shows that science fair help is just a click or phone call away. Enlist the Internet to help you find cheap science fair projects that require minimal or cheaper supplies. Several state-sponsored, school and commercial education websites, including PBS Kids and Kids.gov, offer resources, so try to read them first. In addition, magazines, online experiments and even TV shows can introduce students to ideas for their projects. Watch a science documentary on cable with your child costless than purchasing guides or reference books. Local universities and laboratories also boast outreach programs for students interested in a particular field of science. If your child has a focused experiment but needs special equipment, school and university labs may be able to lend a hand. Special microscopes and machines in these plants can cost thousands of dollars, so asking to cooperate takes a little away from your budget while improving the project. Ad For pictures on the poster, check with libraries and schools to see if students can borrow cameras to photograph their material and track their experiment. Librarians and teachers are usually willing to help in advance or can redirect you to a better option for your request. If you visit the public library or school library, you and your child will have access to search tools and background reading that may be behind a pay wall (and would cost money otherwise). Search for inspiration everywhere - even at home. Click to the next page to learn more. Your home is a hotspot for designing cheap Projects. For example, heading to the kitchen – with an appetite for ideas, not food – can help spark thoughts for the next affordable Why? Because you probably own the majority of materials you need. Ad Try to devote some of your family's weekly produce to a project to measure in which settings (refrigerator, counter or in a paper bag) fruit matures fastest and why [source: USDA]. The chemistry is behind cooking and baking, which also creates opportunities for experimentation. Several projects involve things lying around the kitchen, including measuring cups, glass, salt, baking powder and flour. Just make sure you keep experiments non-toxic if you plan to reuse porcelain. Your child can also draw inspiration from the backyard or the local park, where the presence - or lack thereof - of certain plants and wildlife can warrant studies. The last tip for low-cost projects requires, above all, an observant mind. Award-winning science fair projects don't have to focus on hard science or gadgets. Observing humans and animals can be just as interesting - and cheap. Students can study the behaviour of classmates or adults. In fact, a project that did well at the largest high school science competition, the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair, focused on how people perceive awards [source: National Institute on Drug Abuse]. Most of the student's data was probably cheap to collect because she conducted surveys and interviewed the participants herself. Similar projects may require describing an experiment on a consent form and with participants signing and agreeing to participate. What is costly, however, is the time and effort budding researchers should set aside for these types of projects. Poor time management often stands in the way of children presenting their best work [source: Glidden]. Ad In the same spirit, students can choose to study insect behaviors at different times of the day in their backyards or record their reactions in controlled experiments to stimuli such as food and habitat changes with the guidance of a teacher. Students could also look at their classmates' eating habits in the lunch room to track relationships between food choices and exams or the weather. Memory experiments are feasible and require few materials as well. Keep reading for more articles you might like (and they won't cost you a dime). Dollar stores — where most items cost just a penny — always seem to make money. HowStuffWorks will find out how they do it. Bleeker and Lynne. Successful Science Fair projects. Neuroscience for children. (Sept. 29, 2011) Energy Commission. Science project: Make a turbine. Energy Quest Room. 2006. (Sept. 29, 2011) education. Parent resources. Science Fair Centre. (Sept. 29, 2011). Cheap science fair projects. Personal interview. Interview. 30, 2011.Kids.gov. Science Fair project. U.S. General Services Administration. October 7, 2011. (11 Oct 2011) the Institute for Drug Abuse. Altruistic Decision-Making Focus of NIDA's Addiction Science Award. May 13, 2011. (Sept. 29, 2011) Broadcasting Services. DragonflyTV. Twin Cities Public Television. (11 Oct 2011). Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control. Science Fair Project Guidebook. March 2011. (9 Oct 2011). Ministry for Agriculture Agricultural Research serves. Agricultural Ideas for Science Fair Projects. Sci4Kids. (Sept. 29, 2011) Making a PH reactive fluid is a lightweight science fair project that could be done in a single evening with good results. This project requires little more than red cabbage and some basic household items. This project is an easy way to visually determine whether a liquid or powder is an acid or a base. With the variety of liquids and powders in your household, this allows for large experiments. There are few required materials for this project. The first and most important item is red cabbage. A large cabbage will yield more PH liquid than is necessary, so it is probably best to cut it in half (or get a very small cabbage). A standard coffee filter is also recommended. Chop one of the halves of the cabbage into small pieces. Put these pieces in a bowl. Boil a few cups of water, then pour it into the bowl until the cabbage is completely saturated and the water level reaches the top. Wait until the water has cooled to room temperature. Notice that the liquid will grow increasingly dark purple. Pour the liquid into a jar or plastic container. It is recommended to pour the liquid through a coffee filter to keep the pieces of cabbage out of the final liquid. Pour a small amount of the liquid into a wide mouth secondary container. You can now test the whereabouts of different liquids and powders to determine if they are an acid or base. Acidic objects will turn the liquid red. Bases will turn the liquid green. The more pronoun color, the more further is the chemical tested from being neutral. Use new PH indicator fluid for each test and never mix acids and bases together because the chemical reaction they create can potentially be dangerous. This solution can also be used to make litmus paper. All you need is some white acid-free drawing paper. Cut the paper into small strips and then dip the strips into the solution. They are now ready to be used to test where a chemical falls on the pH scale. Just as in liquid form, red indicates an acid and green indicates a base. Blue is neutral. Neutral.

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