Synopsys Championship

- www.science-fair.org
- March 9-10, 2022
- In person, hybrid, or virtual to be determined
- Currently, any person attending (if in person) will need to have proof of vaccination.
- Preapproval deadlines: 10/25, 11/8, 11/22
- Final application date: 1/18/2022
Getting started with the application

Online Application Folder must contain

- payment or voucher code
- Any project with potential risk requires pre-approval
- Signatures
  - Signature dates MUST be BEFORE experimentation begin date
- Sponsoring teacher
- Project procedures
- Required forms
Advantages of Participation

- Discovery!
- Learning from mentors and judges
- Various cash up to $1000
- Qualification for
  - Ca State Science Fair grades 6-12
  - Broadcom MASTERS 6-8
  - Trip to Intel International Science and Engineering Fair 9-12
- NASA opportunities
- Variety of Special Awards from Organizations
Types of Projects

- product testing for 8th and below only
- Engineering, Math, Computer Science
- All types of Experiments
- See website for Engineering PPT
- See link for minimum quality standards
- See special rules/forms/dates: hazards, vertebrates, humans
Projects Hints

- Something you CARE about
- Do your background research
- Look for the answer to Why or How
- Something that matters to developing countries, to disabled people, to the environment
- The “inherently cool”
- Use a notebook!
- Analyze your findings
Stay away from:

- Pouring Coke on anything
- Growing plants in MiracleGro
- Testing different colors of light on plants
- Anything that starts out with “I want to find out what happens when…” ***

- See the no-no list on the website
Need More Ideas?

- Use a Scientist’s unfinished work
- Use Google and Google scholar
  - Stay away from science project lists
    - “Earthquake” and “Magnets”
- Use what you know
  - Your hobbies
  - The things that bug you
  - The Special Awards
  - The news
- Look for unique measuring devices (UV meter)
Example of a real “science fair project”

- **Bare Zones**
- Why is there a strip of bare dirt between the chaparral and grassy areas on Mt. Diablo? Is it a complicated plant warfare? Or something much simpler?
Success

- Take as much data as possible
  - many samples
  - repeated trials
  - various conditions

- Analyze the data

- Be enthusiastic when presenting

- Safety first!

- Parents—know your place

- Go beyond if using Science Buddies
Applying

Be clear
- Include safety information
- Use metric
- Know your variables
- **Check for all the special forms your project may require**
- Signatures!
- Bibliography
Important Websites

- www.science-fair.org
- www.sciencebuddies.org
- http://www.societyforscience.org/ISEF/
- http://school.discoveryeducation.com/sciencefaircentral/
- http://ei.cornell.edu/student/
We hope this is the beginning of great things to come!