

## GRADES 7-12 SUMMER SCIENCE PROJECT ASSIGNMENT - 2017

This assignment is mandatory for all science students' grades 7-11. This assignment is optional for the 12th grade Health students.

a. Over the summer I would like for you to begin searching [www.sciencebuddies.org](http://www.sciencebuddies.org) or another reliable science project idea's web site for a science project that you would be interested in doing for the upcoming school year. You will spend a lot of time on this project so you want to pick a topic that you are interested in. Do not pick an easy project; pick a complex project that is appropriate for your grade level. Remember, there are certain parts of the project that your parents can assist you. You can also work with a mentor and/or qualified scientist.

b. On the first day of school you will hand in two possible projects that you are interested in doing. You must print out the entire project, including the level of difficulty. Number the projects **1** and **2** with **1** being your first choice and **2** being your second choice. I will review your two choices and approve one of them at the beginning of the school year. Please feel free to e-mail me during the summer if you have any questions: [maryjo@ccobacademy.com](mailto:maryjo@ccobacademy.com).

c. When you are reviewing a possible project check the material list first. You probably have some of the items in your home or you can e-mail me to see if I have them in the lab. This will help lower the project cost. Make sure you discuss the cost of the project with your parents before you make any decisions. Remember, experiments can be done in the lab during the school year if needed; you just need to set up an appointment with me.

d. Review the project carefully. Do not get discouraged if at first you do not understand something. You can send an e-mail to Science Buddies (Ask an Expert) and ask them to explain anything to you that you do not understand about the project.

e. Project Requirements:

- i. Projects must be age/grade appropriate.
- ii. All projects must come from [www.sciencebuddies.org](http://www.sciencebuddies.org) **or** a reliable science project web site.
- iii. If you use [www.sciencebuddies.org](http://www.sciencebuddies.org), the Level of Difficulty is as follows:

Grade 7 Level of Difficulty:	<i>Intermediate (hard) or higher</i>
Grade 8 Level of Difficulty:	<i>Advanced (medium) or higher</i>
High School Level of Difficulty:	<i>Advanced (hard)</i>

iv. A quick way to review "level of difficulty" is to click on Project Ideas on *Science Buddies* and review the index. Click on the area of science that you are interested in, and then on the right side of the screen you will see a box titled "Limit Project Ideas by..." Click on difficulty and then click on the level of difficulty that meets the requirement for your grade.

Projects involving humans, live animals, poisonous plants, any instrument containing mercury, hazardous biological agents, toxic chemicals, lasers, and computer based projects involving internet databases will not be approved.

No abbreviated projects will be approved.

Some experiments may involve additional paperwork as required by the Safety Review Committee.

If you have any questions regarding the safety of your project log onto to *massscifair.com* and click on “The Fairs”. Click on “Manuals and Forms” and download the manual. Review the “Research and Safety Regulations for further information.

**f.** This year team projects will be allowed at the *high school* level. Requirements to participate in a team project are as follows:

- i. teams will consist of only two students
- ii. both team members have to be in the same science class
- iii. both team members will receive the same grade
- iv. team members will have to sign a form stating that all work was done as a team
- v. parents will have to sign a permission slip allowing you to be part of a team project
- vi. you may not work with the same classmate two years in a row (you can still be part of a team project but you must choose another classmate to work with)