



### Student

Emma Gloudeman  
Rocklin, CA

### Summary

4<sup>th</sup> grader Emma Gloudeman used the Science Buddies Topic Selection Wizard to find a project for her first school science fair and earned an Honorable Mention, identifying her project as one of the best at the fair.

### Overview

4<sup>th</sup> graders at Emma Gloudeman's elementary school in Rocklin, CA are not required to enter the school's science fair, but Emma decided she wanted to participate.

Looking for help to get started, she turned to her stepfather, a science teacher, who introduced her to Science Buddies' online resources.



Like many students preparing for their first science fair, Emma used the [Topic Selection Wizard](#) to narrow down Science Buddies' 1,000+ Project Ideas to those that best matched her interests. In reviewing the list of recommended projects that she might enjoy based on her answers to the Topic Selection Wizard questions, she spotted the "[Where There Is Charge, There Can Be Sparks!](#)" project. She thought it sounded interesting because it involved electricity.

"I built a Leyden jar, and I trapped electricity in a Styrofoam cup," Emma says, summarizing the excitement of the experimental procedure. While conducting the project, she says she greatly enjoyed the process of stripping the wires and was amazed that she could generate and contain static electricity within an apparatus built from common household materials.

Emma received an Honorable Mention at her school's science fair, recognition given only to projects that met the full requirements of the fair's judging rubric. In addition, she received 18 out of 20 available points of extra credit for entering on her own.

While Emma learned a great deal about electricity in her first science fair project, she also admits she learned something else: "Science is fun!"