

**From:** Science Buddies <scibuddy@sciencebuddies.org>  
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**To:** Ken@sciencebuddies.org  
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Free Science Fair Project Ideas, Answers,  
& Tools for Serious Students



Science Buddies Newsletter  
Issue 2  
August 2008

Dear Reader,

Welcome back to a new school year! While you were hopefully relaxing and enjoying some well-deserved time off, we've been hard at work to provide you and your students with fresh, new project ideas, an enhanced Topic Selection Wizard, and more great tips for science project success. We know you're busy with your new classes, so simply check out the highlights below, and visit us online anytime at [www.sciencebuddies.org](http://www.sciencebuddies.org) to find out more about any of the articles you see here.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Hess  
Science Buddies Founder and President  
[www.sciencebuddies.org](http://www.sciencebuddies.org)

## News and Announcements

### [New Project Ideas Now Online!](#)

The Science Buddies writers have been busy working on many new Project Ideas for the website, including a few that go hand in hand with episodes from PBS' [Cyberchase](#) website, as well as one sponsored by Seagate, manufacturer of hard drives and computer storage. Here are just a few of the latest Project Ideas:

- [Shape Changing with the CyberSquad](#)
- [Give It a Lift with a Lever](#)
- [Levitating Magnets: Floating Isn't Just for Magicians](#)

### [Our New Video and Computer Games Interest Area is Sure to Pique Students' Interest!](#)

Science Buddies is pleased to announce that the AMD Foundation is sponsoring our new Video and Computer Games Project Ideas collection as part of its new initiative called "AMD Changing the Game," which is designed to enhance education through game development. These Project Ideas are designed for students who have an interest in video and computer games, and will help them create science fair projects that explore a variety of topics, such as game design, graphics, audio, and programming.

### [Enhanced Topic Selection Wizard Feature](#)

Coming this fall, Science Buddies will be unveiling its new and improved Topic Selection Wizard (TSW). This popular website feature is an interactive tool that helps students narrow down their search for a science fair project idea. By having students answer a series of questions, the TSW identifies specific Project Ideas most likely to be interesting to each student. The enhancements include:

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#### Contact Us

If you have any questions or comments, please send an email to [scibuddy@sciencebuddies.org](mailto:scibuddy@sciencebuddies.org)

- Fewer screens to navigate into the Project Ideas
- Automatic screening of Project Ideas to match the student's grade level
- The ability to store favorites

## Science Fair Tips & Tricks for Teachers

### Inspire Your Classroom with Science Project Enrichment Tools

Science Buddies wants to help you and your students get the most out of the science fair project experience, which is why we want to pass along some great ideas from the experts...teachers like you! Below are the highlights of just a couple helpful tools. Visit [our website](#) to see a complete list.

#### Family Science Night

Show students and their families that science is fun! By setting up several science activities for everyone in the family, parents will experience the type of hands-on, inquiry-based learning that their children are receiving. This tool also fosters interaction between parents, teachers, and students.

#### Peer Review

This Science Project Enrichment Tool encourages students to interview each other about their science fair projects to help them build confidence, enhance presentation skills, and learn to evaluate and implement feedback.

### Science Buddies in Action

Science Buddies in Action shows how real kids *and* teachers use Science Buddies materials to create interesting projects with success! This month, meet [Diane Vozzola](#). Ms. Vozzola teaches 44 2nd graders and recently shared her firsthand experience with using the Science Buddies Project Guide. Find out how Science Buddies helped her develop an inquiry-based unit to introduce her students to the scientific method. We want to hear your science fair stories, so please share them with us at [scibuddy@sciencebuddies.org](mailto:scibuddy@sciencebuddies.org).

## Science Fair Tips & Tricks for Students

The Science Buddies website not only offers hundreds of Project Ideas for students, but also provides information designed to help students succeed at science fairs. In this issue, we've highlighted our latest student competition blogs.

### Check Out the Latest Competition Blogs from Real Students!

Science Buddies believes that firsthand accounts are invaluable, which is why we frequently ask students to share their competition experiences with us so we can pass them on to students and teachers. We've recently posted blogs from:

- [Yihe Dong](#), 2008 Intel Science Talent Search Finalist
- [Taylor Jones](#), 2008 Junior Science & Humanities Symposium Participant
- [Janelle Schlossberger](#), 2007-2008 Siemens Competition in Math, Science, & Technology 1st-Place National Finalist

We encourage you and your students to immerse yourselves in these students' blogs to discover what competition is like, how to handle the pressure, how much fun can be had, and to learn tips for how to prepare for science fairs at *any* level of competition.

## Upcoming Events

### **Deadlines**

- [Weightless Flights of Discovery](#)

The Northrop Grumman Foundation has extended the deadline for applications to its 2008 Weightless Flights of Discovery programs in Chicago, Illinois and in San Jose, California. Weightless Flights of Discovery is an initiative that places teachers on micro-

and zero-gravity flights to test Newton's Laws of Motion and get motivated to energize middle-school students. The San Jose flight will be September 18th and the Chicago flight will be October 21st. Visit [the Northrop Grumman Foundation's Weightless Flights of Discovery website](#) for more information.

**Science Buddies gratefully acknowledges its Presenting Sponsor**



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