NIWA Auckland Science & Technology Fair 2018 – scifair.org.nz

What is the Fair – Science projects: Study the world to find out something new. Is there a question that you can answer by doing a test or making observations? Technology projects: Can you put something together from things that already exist to make life better?

What are the Prizes? Over 5 thousand? Lots!

Where does it lead? Realise the Dream, Crest Awards (auto entry with good projects).

Timetable:
Term 1 - Science Skills, Fair Testing, Idea Research
Term 2 - Complete project! (Doesn't that sound easy?)
Term 3 - Week 1 - Projects due for school fair! (Friday)
Term 3 - Week 2 - Judging!
Term 3 - Week 3 - Finalists prep and complete time

Ideas:
Understanding writers block – they don't write because they are afraid to write, not because they don't have something to write about. Don't put off sitting down and reading something or writing something.

Understanding the mindset of the procrastinator – they have all the plans in the world, "oh I'm going to be a lawyer, I'm going to be a fireman, I'm going to…" but they never do anything because they don't make a plan to get there and follow it step by step.

1. Getting ideas – try reading. Because either you'll get interested in a topic you don't know anything about (what makes the sky blue?) or learn science related to something you do already, eg. a sport you play.
2. Take action – sports teams have training times. Set time for Science and do it!

Aim - I have chosen to investigate   _____

Introduction – I chose this because   _____

Hypothesis - I think that my investigation will show… and I think this because… _____

_____

Projects I don't like
Plants under coloured plastic – everybody does it, try to be unique
Growing mould on bread – ewww. At the very least take pictures, don't attach real mouldy bread to your project.
All the different soft drinks – usually ends up being product testing. How will your project stand out?

Making sure it's a fair test.
Change one thing! Measure one thing! Keep everything else the same!
Can you make a graph from the data you record?
Product testing issues – This can be a pre-test to discover the one product you want to experiment with.
Psychological testing issues – can the results be turned into numbers for a graph?

Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Earth Science, Astronomy – and don't forget NIWA, ie. if appropriate, discuss a wider application of your work to the environment.

Log Book and Project Write Up
Write everything you do and put the pictures you take into a Word document.
Everything including your final project write-up goes into the document and will be emailed or shared with your teacher. It will be proofed by your teacher before it is printed.