

Third Grade
MSTEP Homework Packet # 2

Sent home on _____

Return by _____

Student's Name

Name _____ Date _____

Read the brochure “Pine Elementary School Science Fair” before answering Numbers 19 through 35.

Pine Elementary School Science Fair



PINE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRESENTS

Student Science Fair

For Students in Grades K–5

Dates: October 30–31

Location: Pine Elementary School Gym

Explore Your World . . . Think Like a Scientist

The Student Science Fair offers a great way for you to put your science knowledge to use! Whether or not you win, you’ll have fun at this contest.

Science Fair Events

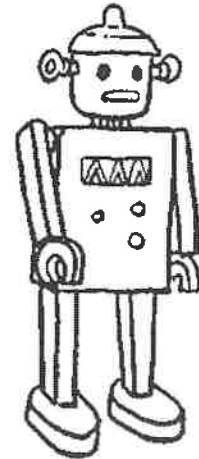
There is plenty to do during the science fair. Of course, you’ll want to take a look at all of the students’ projects. There will be other exciting things to see and do as well. These events will highlight the wonderful world of science. The big event is the announcement of the winners in each grade. This announcement will take place at the awards ceremony on Friday afternoon. Many of the other events are listed below.



Name _____ Date _____

Meet a Robot!

Can people and robots work together? Learn about the latest research being done to make that happen. Scientists will be at the fair on Thursday, October 30, with Modo. What's Modo? It is a robot helper being developed to help people with jobs they do. Learn how Modo's large blue eyes are able to "see." Watch Modo grasp objects and wiggle them to get a feel for their size. Then see how Modo places the objects on a shelf. Touch Modo on the arm. Watch what happens! It will respond to your touch. If you push it too hard, it will say, "Ouch!"



Modo's visit is a rare public appearance, since the robot does not often leave the laboratory. Be sure to see this amazing robot while you have the chance!

More Robots!

The fair will also have other types of robots. They will range from simple ones to more complicated machines. Scientists who built the robots will be at the science fair to show what their inventions can do. They will explain how a robot is "born." The scientists will also answer questions about the design and building of the robots.

Our Own Thomas Edison

Make sure you're in the gym at 10:00 A.M. on Friday. That's when local genius Ray Allen will give a talk about his life as an inventor. He will also show some of his early gadgets. At the end of his talk, Mr. Allen will take questions from the audience.

SCIENCE FAIR SCHEDULE**Registration**

October 27 7:30 A.M.–5:00 P.M.

Set-up of Projects

October 28 10:00 A.M.–3:00 P.M.

October 29 10:00 A.M.–3:00 P.M.

Science Fair Viewing

October 30 10:00 A.M.–3:00 P.M.

October 31 10:00 A.M.–3:00 P.M.

Awards Presentation

October 31 1:00 P.M.

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HOW TO SIGN UP

Get a sign-up form in the Pine Elementary School office. Complete the form and turn it in by 5:00 P.M. on Monday, October 27. You will also receive a science fair booklet. The booklet will give you suggestions on how to choose a topic for a science fair project and how to create a display. It will also list sources of ideas for projects. Information on what you must include in a display can be found in the booklet.

WHY TAKE PART IN THE SCIENCE FAIR?

You can

- explore the world of science in a project of your choice.
- share your knowledge and interests with others.
- meet scientists and get their valuable advice.
- view your classmates' thrilling science projects.
- see who wins the science prize.



WHO ARE THE JUDGES?

The Pine Elementary School Science Committee will choose the judges, which will include science teachers and local scientists.

Contact Information

If you have any questions, contact Jenny McAllister at 555-1845 or Wynn Adams at 555-2331.

Name _____ Date _____

Now answer Numbers 19 through 35. Base your answers on the brochure “Pine Elementary School Science Fair.”

19 What is the main idea of this brochure?

- (A) a school science fair
- (B) a public appearance
- (C) an awards ceremony
- (D) a schedule of events

20 Read this sentence from the brochure.

This announcement will take place at the awards ceremony on Friday afternoon.

Which word means almost the SAME as the word *awards*, as used in the sentence above?

- (F) activities
- (G) prizes
- (H) projects
- (I) winners

21 Read this sentence from the brochure.

Learn about the latest research being done to make that happen.

Which word has the same sound as the underlined part of the word *about*?

- (A) crowd
- (B) look
- (C) show
- (D) world

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- 22 Read this sentence from the brochure.

Learn about the latest research being done to make that happen.

What does the word *research* mean in the sentence above?

- (F) fact finding
- (G) using machines
- (H) working with others
- (I) putting parts together

- 23 What can the reader tell from the information in the paragraph *Meet a Robot!?*

- (A) Modo falls over easily.
- (B) Ray Allen invented Modo.
- (C) Modo robots will be for sale.
- (D) Scientists are still developing Modo.

- 24 Read this sentence from the brochure.

Watch Modo grasp objects and wiggle them to get a feel for their size.

What does the word *grasp* mean as used in the sentence above?

- (F) remove
- (G) glance at
- (H) search for
- (I) hold tightly

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- 25 Read this sentence from the brochure.

Modo's visit is a rare public appearance, since the robot does not often leave the laboratory.

What does the word *laboratory* mean in the sentence above?

- (A) the place where a scientist lives
- (B) the place where a scientist works
- (C) a place where a science fair is held
- (D) a place where students learn about science

- 26 Read this sentence from the brochure.

They will range from simple ones to more complicated machines.

What does the word *complicated* mean in the sentence above?

- (F) complex
- (G) decorated
- (H) plain
- (I) shiny

- 27 Read this sentence from the brochure.

That's when local genius Ray Allen will give a talk about his life as an inventor.

What does the word *genius* mean in the sentence above?

- (A) a type of scientist
- (B) a very smart person
- (C) a person who is famous
- (D) a person who gives speeches

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- 28 Why will many students be in the gym at 1:00 P.M. on October 31?
- F Modo will appear.
 - G Registration takes place.
 - H The awards will be announced.
 - I Ray Allen will give an interview.

- 29 Read this sentence from the brochure.

At the end of his talk, Mr. Allen will take questions from the audience.

Which word has the same sound as the underlined part of the word *audience*?

- A class
 - B range
 - C share
 - D walk
- 30 Where can students get sign-up forms for the science fair?
- F in the gym
 - G in the office
 - H in the library
 - I in the cafeteria

Name _____ Date _____

31 Read these words from the brochure.

- **meet scientists and get their valuable advice.**

If the word *value* means “worth” or “use,” what does the word *valuable* mean?

- (A) of little worth or use
- (B) worthwhile or useful
- (C) without worth or use
- (D) of unknown worth or use

32 According to the information in the section *WHY TAKE PART IN THE SCIENCE FAIR?*, what can students who take part in the fair do?

- (F) design a robot
- (G) meet scientists
- (H) judge a contest
- (I) become scientists

33 What can readers learn about the science fair by looking at the pictures in the brochure?

- (A) Most schools have science fairs.
- (B) There will be a robot at the science fair.
- (C) A famous scientist will be at the science fair.
- (D) Students should build a robot for the science fair.

34 In what way do the headings in dark type help the reader?

- (F) They help the reader understand the pictures in the brochure.
- (G) They help the reader learn important dates in the science fair.
- (H) They help the reader find important information about the fair.
- (I) They help the reader find phone numbers for contact information.

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35 Read these words from the brochure.

- view your classmates' thrilling science projects.

Which word means almost the SAME as the word *thrilling*?

- (A) exciting
- (B) expecting
- (C) winning
- (D) working



Name _____ Date _____

Reading Complex Text

Read the legends “How Winter Came to Be” and “How the Sun Came into the World.” As you read, stop and answer each question. Use evidence from the legends to support your answers.

How Winter Came to Be: A Zuni Legend

Long ago, it was always summer, and it was always dark.

The Sun and the Moon lived somewhere on earth, not in the sky. For this reason, it was always warm, but there was no light in the sky.

Coyote was trying to hunt and find food, but he was not having much success. He had trouble seeing in the dark. Coyote knew Eagle was an excellent hunter. He thought that Eagle might be able to help him.

1 Why is Coyote having trouble finding food?

“Eagle!” Coyote called up to Eagle in the sky. “Come hunt with me. Surely we can catch more together than we can apart.”

“You might be right, Coyote,” Eagle said. “Let us try it.”

The two began hunting. Eagle had much success, but Coyote could find nothing but some bugs.

“Coyote, what is wrong?” asked Eagle.

“It is too dark for me to see,” said Coyote.

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Reading Complex Text

Eagle thought for a moment and said, “I know of some people called the Kachinas. They have the Sun and the Moon in a box. Let us go there.”

Eagle and Coyote walked for a long time. Eventually they came to the land of the Kachinas. The Kachinas invited Eagle and Coyote to sit with them and share a meal. Later, when everyone had gone to sleep, Eagle grabbed the box that kept the Sun and the Moon. Then he and Coyote ran away.

After they had run for a long time, Coyote began to bother Eagle.

“Please, Eagle,” Coyote pleaded, “let me carry the box.”

“No, Coyote,” said Eagle sternly, “I do not trust you with the box.”

Eventually, however, Eagle got tired of Coyote’s whining. “Fine, Coyote, take the box, but do not open it.”

So Coyote carried the box for some time, but soon his curiosity got the better of him. I must just peek inside the box, he thought to himself.

Coyote opened the box and the Sun and the Moon escaped. They flew up into the sky, far away from Eagle, Coyote, and the land, taking their warmth with them. Now the Sun and the Moon live in the sky. Summer only comes when they move close to the earth. Otherwise, it is winter.

<p>2 What does this legend try to explain?</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

Name _____ Date _____

How the Sun Came into the World: A Haida Legend

The world was once a very dark place. Raven was irritated by the constant darkness. He was constantly bumping into things and having to feel his way around.

One day Raven heard about an old man who lived alone with his daughter. He learned that the old man kept a box in his house. The box contained the Sun. Raven decided he would steal the Sun so it could light the world. Soon Raven had come up with a plan.

One day, the old man's daughter left the house to gather water from the river. Raven heard her coming and quickly changed himself into a human baby. The daughter found the human baby and instantly fell in love with it. She brought it back to her father.

The old man thought the baby had an odd look, but he agreed they could keep it. Both the old man and his daughter loved the baby until it grew into a small boy.

One day the boy pointed at the small box that held the Sun. "What's in there?" asked the boy.

The old man growled like a bear. "Do not worry about it. And never touch that box."

3 What do the words *growled like a bear* tell the reader about the old man?

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Reading Complex Text

The boy was silent, but a short while later he was asking about the box again. The old man tried to ignore him, but he eventually gave in to the boy.

“Okay, okay, I will show you,” said the old man. He opened the box and pulled out the Sun. “Catch!” said the old man as he threw the Sun to the boy.

The boy, who was Raven, laughed like a child. He tossed the Sun back to the old man. Soon they were playing a game, tossing the Sun back and forth. The old man laughed at this fun, too.

Then, as the old man tossed the Sun to the boy, the boy suddenly turned himself back into Raven. He caught the ball in his beak, and he flew up threw a hole in the roof of the house.

This is how the Sun came to light the world.

- 4 Explain one way in which Coyote and Raven are SIMILAR. Then explain one way in which they are DIFFERENT.

