

NOTE:
**THESE NIRSEF ELEMENTARY SAFETY
RESEARCH RULES APPLY TO
STUDENTS IN
GRADES 3 THROUGH 5.**

- I. With adult supervision, students should evaluate their fair projects for safety concerns regarding the use of *vertebrate* animals (any animal that has a spine) in their project. Please note the NIRSEF Committee *discourages the use of animals in research projects*, although insects (or *invertebrates*) may be studied in their place.

If animals or humans, biological materials or hazardous chemicals or substances are being studied or used in a project, the Northern Indiana Regional Science and Engineering Fair Scientific Review Committee (SRC) must be notified to assure that all safety standards are being considered and to provide guidance, when necessary.

The NIRSEF requests that all elementary participants follow SRC provided guidance for their projects and include any documents that the SRC may require as part of their Science Fair Project paperwork.

- II. Team projects (up to 3 members per team) will be allowed and judged at the elementary (grades 3 - 5) level. If students plan to participate in the Regional Fair as a team, please be certain that all team members register. Please be aware that all team members are responsible for project safety and are required to follow any guidelines the team or the NIRSEF SRC describes.
- III. Project Entry information for the 2009 NIRSEF will be completed on line beginning January 2009. All persons designated as science fair contacts will be contacted regarding the new on line registration system.
- IV. The NIRSEF Committee is happy to help students, adult supervisor and teachers with projects and provide safety information. Please contact the Executive Director below if you feel you need additional project safety information or guidelines.



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