

**:: How to organize a Science Fair?::**  
**SciCamp Conference**

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# How to organize a Science Fair?



## What is a Science Fair?

- **Exhibition of scientific projects developed by students with the guidance of a teacher;**
- **Space for students to present creative and innovative ideas;**
- **It is a place of integration and exchange of experiences between students, teachers and visitors.**

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# How to organize a Science Fair?



## The main aims of Science Fair?

- **Promote the scientific culture and disseminate the scientific method;**
- **Encourage students to learn about different areas of knowledge and its importance in order to increase interest and motivation of students in STEM;**
- **Present to the community the scientific research carried out by students.**

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# How to organize a Science Fair?



## How important is a Science Fair?

- **Contributes to the development of creativity and innovation of students;**
- **Encourage the scientific research work;**
- **Provide the students learning process through the use of scientific method;**
- **Stimulate the planning and carrying out projects by students and teachers, encouraging the development of scientific work;**
- **Provide exchanges between teachers, students and visitors.**

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## What should we know to organize a Science Fair?

## How should we start?

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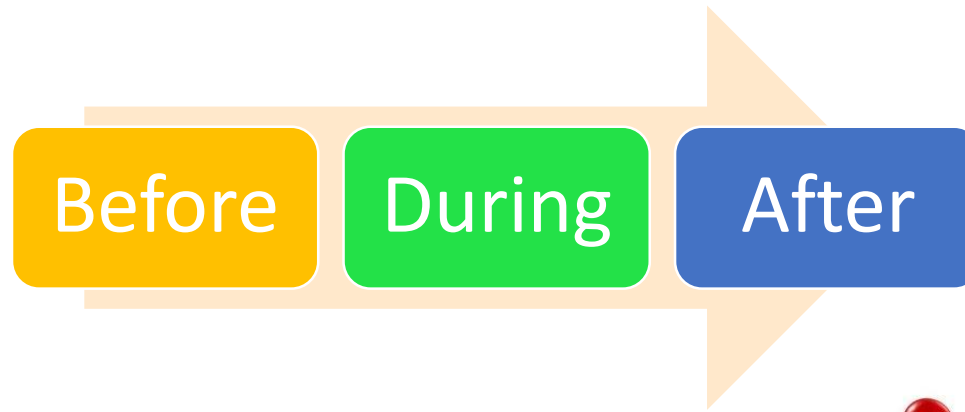
## Practical exercise



# How to organize a Science Fair?



What should be done?



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# How to organize a Science Fair?



**Example:**

## **Portuguese National Science Fair**

- **Promoted by Fundação da Juventude, since 2007**
- **May 2016, Lisbon – 10<sup>th</sup> edition**
  
- **Portuguese Contest for Young Scientists**
- **Selection of 100 projects to participate on the Fair**
- **Exhibition of projects**
- **Evaluation and awards**

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## Portuguese National Science Fair

### Level?

- School, local, regional, national or international

### Who is involved?

- Students, teachers coordinators
- Jury
- Visitors

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## Portuguese National Science Fair

### Target?

- Students, teachers coordinators
- Age: 15 to 20 years
- 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade of school or 1<sup>st</sup> year of university
- Individually or groups of 3 elements, maximum, plus the teacher coordinator

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## Portuguese National Science Fair

### Scientific fields?

- All areas of knowledge
- STEM
- Social sciences

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Before

## Portuguese National Science Fair

- Select the date (in accordance with school calendar);
- Select the local (Electricity Museum);
- Identify the organization team;
- Define the means of dissemination and promotion;
- Develop the program;
- Identify the main partners and sponsors.

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Before

## Portuguese National Science Fair

### Define the rules for participation

- Fair name
- Promoter of the event
- Who can participate
- Conditions for participation
- Scientific fields
- Deadlines
- Mandatory documents
- Stands dimensions
- Prizes

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Before

## Portuguese National Science Fair

### Budget

- **List of all costs**
  - **Personal costs - staff**
  - **Direct costs (equipment, promotion materials, communication and website, stands, catering, accommodation, ...)**
  - **Prizes**
  
- **Financial resources**
  - **Sponsors**
  - **Public support**

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Before

## Portuguese National Science Fair

### How to promote

- Create the visual identity;
- Produce posters, leaflets, catalog, web-site, promotional video
- Promote the fair on social networks
- Dissemination sessions in schools
- Mailings
- Press releases

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Before

## Portuguese National Science Fair

### Registration - projects submission

- Online registration
- Students and teacher coordinator identification
- School identification
- Scientific field
- Project summary
- Project report

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Before

## Portuguese National Science Fair

### Evaluation - 1<sup>st</sup> level (report)

- **Jury**
  - **University professors or researchers**
  - **All scientific fields;**
  
- **Online assessment platform**
  - **Definition of evaluation criteria**
  - **Evaluation registration**

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Before

## Portuguese National Science Fair

### Evaluation - 1<sup>st</sup> level

- Dissemination of the evaluation results  
List of 100 projects select to the fair
- Preparation of the fair catalogue

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Before

## Portuguese National Science Fair

### To be organized

- Fair program
- Accommodation
- Meals
- Stands
- Volunteers
- Invitations
- Certificates

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During

## Portuguese National Science Fair

- **Participants check-in;**
  - **266 students**
  - **47 teachers**
  - **14 jury members**
  
- **Assembly of the stands (100);**
- **Opening Ceremony;**
- **Schools and public visits;**
- **Workshops and lectures;**
- **Evaluation and jury meeting;**
- **Awards Ceremony.**

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**During**

## Program

### 28<sup>th</sup> of May 2015

Check-in and assembly stands

Lunch

Opening Ceremony

Schools and public visits

Jury interviews

Dinner

### 29<sup>th</sup> of May 2015

Jury interviews

Schools and public visits

Workshop

Lunch

Guided visit – Electricity Museum

Lecture

Jury meeting

Dinner

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**During**

**Program**

**30<sup>th</sup> of May 2015**

**Schools and public visits**

**Lunch**

**Awards Ceremony**

**Dismantling stands**

**Departure**

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After

## Portuguese National Science Fair

- Press release - Prizes
- Main prizes (€ 1250 to € 400)
- Honorary mentions
- International participation prizes
- Evaluation - online questionnaire
- Final report
- Thanks to partners and sponsors

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## What should be done?



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- Discussion of results
- Your contributions to improve



# How to organize a Science Fair?



## To organize a Science Fair

- **It requires much effort, organization and dedication**
- **Responsible and motivated team**
- **Financial resources**
- **Good communication strategy**
- **Strategic partnerships**

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# How to organize a Science Fair?



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## 9th Portuguese Science Fair

Lisbon, 28th to 30th of May 2015  
Electricity Museum

video

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**Thank you for your  
attention!**



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