

ExploraVision - K-12 Science Competition: Students Engage in High End Applications of the Scientific Process

Looking for an exciting opportunity for your students? Check out ExploraVision <https://www.exploravision.org>. Engage your students in a project based, problem based, inquiry based experience, moving them through the scientific process with a goal in mind. For several years I had my students work through this amazing process. The experience and results are ones they talk about for years.

ExploraVision is a free science competition for K-12 students sponsored by NSTA and Toshiba. Students collaborate in groups of 2-4 as they engage in real world problem solving, looking at an existing problem and what it would take to create a new technology to address the problem 10+ years in the future.

As a teacher you guide your students as they pick a current technology, problem, or issue, research what has been done in the past as well as how it is currently being addressed, envision what is needed and what it could look like in 10 or more years with their prototype design. Students then describe the development steps needed for their design, the pros & cons, and the obstacles that might be faced with the development of their new technology idea. They literally Explore-a-Vision as they go through a real life scientific development experience.

Students are grouped in age level groups: K-3, 4-6, 7-9, and 10-12.

K-3 grades team can use a ready-to-fill-out project template to complete and enter project. 4-6 grades teams have a choice to submit projects in two types of format: a PowerPoint Slide Style or the Standard ExploraVision Project Format. 7-9 and 10-12 use the Standard ExploraVision Format.

Standard formats include the following sections: Abstract, Description, Present Technology, History, Future Technology, Breakthroughs, Design Process, Consequences, Bibliography, and Sample drawings of 5 Web Pages.

This year, final projects must be submitted by Jan 31st, 2023. As a national competition, students first compete with regional groups for a chance to compete for one of the top two prizes in each age group: National 1st place teams receive a \$10,000 bond for each team member and National 2nd place teams receive a \$5000 bond for each team member. Both team levels receive an all expense paid trip to Washington DC.

Learn more about ExploraVision at <https://www.exploravision.org>. Everything you need is on their website, the rules, guidelines, including sample projects as well as present and past winning project videos and websites. My students loved to look through the creative ideas shared. Just choose the grade level of choice and check out what “our future” thinks is important. It’s exciting to see how they Explore their Visions!!

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

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