

# Participating in Fairs

## Implementation Strategies

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Participating in Fairs provides information on opportunities for students to share their hard work by showcasing their projects and competing in engineering competitions.



### Intel ISEF

This section presents information on participating in the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (Intel ISEF) and the Intel ISEF-affiliated science fairs where students qualify to participate in Intel ISEF.

### Hosting a Fair

Hosting a Fair offers suggestions on how to host your own engineering fair. Hosting a fair is explained in detail in Session 17, *Fairly There*; and Session 18, *Dress Rehearsal*.

### Other Fairs

A selection of engineering fair and competition opportunities for middle school age students is provided here. For middle school students who may not yet be eligible for an Intel ISEF-affiliated science fair, *Hosting a Fair* and *Other Fairs* are good practice for future participation in an Intel ISEF-affiliated science fair.





# Hosting a Fair

## Participating in Fairs

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Many schools or districts already have annual science fairs that *Design and Discovery* students may be able to participate in. Session 17, *Fairly There*, describes the suggested engineering fairs for *Design and Discovery*.



This culminating event is held to recognize students' hard work and celebrate their accomplishments; to share engineering expertise with others; to practice presenting projects to an audience; to get feedback on their projects: display boards, prototypes, and presentations. A brief description of each culminating event follows.

### A Solutions Showcase

This culminating event is held for parents and community members and is an opportunity for students to share their work and get feedback. Each student explains his or her project with a display board that includes their design brief, sketches, their models, and prototypes. They can also create slide presentations. Invite a guest speaker to open the event. Don't forget to have snacks on hand as well as programs for the guests.

### A Mini-Engineering Fair

This culminating event is held for younger students and peers. In this case, all of the students set up their project displays around the room and the guests visit each project for an explanation by students. These presentations are more informal than a Solutions Showcase. In addition to sharing their projects, *Design and Discovery* students also plan mini-engineering activities for younger students to give them a taste for engineering and what they've learned.

### Organizing a School Science Fair

Many resources are available for organizing a more traditional school science fair. For example, see Science Fair Central, [www.school.discovery.com/sciencefaircentral/](http://www.school.discovery.com/sciencefaircentral/)\*. The science fair organizer section provides information for teachers on how to organize a school science fair.







## Other Fairs (continued)

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environments; designing an easily transportable fitness system for people of all ages and physical abilities; and developing a solution to enable a person to open and/or close containers that are commonly found in the home or office. The National Engineering Design Challenge can be conducted over four, eight, or ten weeks, or as a one-semester program.

[www.jets.org/programs/nedcdesc.cfm](http://www.jets.org/programs/nedcdesc.cfm)\*

**The WWW Virtual Library: Science Fairs.** This library is an attempt to provide a single comprehensive list of every science fair accessible on the Internet. These include national, international, state, and regional fairs. <http://physics.usc.edu/~gould/ScienceFairs>\*