Pennsylvania Junior Academy Of Science (PJAS)
Pittsburgh Regional Science & Engineering Fair (PRSEF)
WHAT IS PJAS?

The Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science (PJAS) is a statewide organization of junior and senior high school students designed to stimulate and promote interest in science among its members through the development of research projects and investigations.
The Pennsylvania Regional Science and Engineering Fair will celebrate its 79th year of open competition of research projects in the fields of science, mathematics, and engineering. This competition is open to all students in grades 6-12 from the 23 counties within Western Pennsylvania and one county in Maryland.
Students in grades 7-12 are invited yearly to participate in the Competitions conducted within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. To complete in a Regional Competition, students conduct a scientific research project in 1 of the 12 Scientific Categories of Research identified by PJAS or one of 9 categories designated by PRSEF.
PJAS

Behavioral Psychology
Biology
Biochemistry
Botany
Chemistry
Computer Science
Earth and Space
Ecology
Engineering
Math
Microbiology
Physics
Zoology

PRSEF

Behavioral and Social Science
Biology
Chemistry
Computer Science/Math
Consumer Science
Earth/Space/Environment
Engineering/Robotics
Medicine & Health/Microbiology
Physics
Behavioral and Consumer Science: These projects will explore consumer products and the science of how people respond to the world around them.

- Behavioral Science Related
- Consumer Related

Biological Sciences: These projects will explore living things, including plants, animals and humans, and the things which affect them.

- Life Science Related
- Health Related

Chemistry: These projects will explore chemistry, which includes study of any kinds of chemicals.

- Chemistry Related

Physical Sciences & Engineering: These projects will explore physics which includes our mechanical world, and engineering, which includes building things and solving problems.

- Physics Related
- Engineering Related
All participating students must have an adult sponsor. Adult sponsors can be teachers, parents, or scientists. The sponsors guide students through the scientific process and paperwork required to participate in a PJAS Regional Competition. The PJAS website provides general instructions for conducting research, as well as very specific guidelines for oral presentations in PJAS competitions.
Science Fair Sponsors

Mrs. Reynolds
Ms. McNally

Teachers also helping out
Ms. Gazzam
Ms. Donoghue
Mrs. Rogiero
Mr. Hoffman
What do I need to do?

Come up with a great problem or question to solve!
SCIENCE IS FUN!!!
It’s even more fun if you win!!
MY FAVORITE SCIENTISTS
JUDGING CRITERIA

- Scientific thought/ Engineering approach - **Novel!**
- Method/ Procedure - Complete & thought out.
- Analytical Approach - What do you do with data.
- Visual Presentation
- Oral Presentation  
  - Really important, because if you can’t tell us what you did, we can’t judge the first 4 items.
- Each area about equal points
PROJECT TYPES

- Testing hypothesis- Biology, Chemistry, etc
- Designing- Engineering, Computer science
- Mathematics
CHOOSING A TOPIC

Do’s
- Passionate and personal
- Something you will like working on for months

Which one should I do?

**DO BOTH!!!! (IF YOU ARE IN 7th and 8th grade)**
PJAS you will present your project using PowerPoint saved as a PDF to 2 to 5 judges along with having 6-10 of your peers in the room.

Presentation needs to be around 8 minutes you can not go over.

Your presentation is graded on a rubric and anyone with 3.93 or higher gets a 1st place - You compete against yourself!!

There are special category awards.
- Create a poster board using the PowerPoints you used for PJAS presentation (see details that follow)
- You stand next to your poster and judges walk around throughout the day
- Board must have a proper layout (can work on this closer to the event)
SUMMARY

- Need a good attitude
- Choose a NOVEL project you really like
- Creative idea
- Clear scientific method
- Clear organized presentation
Let your science teacher know if you are interested by Friday October 6. We will have a meeting on Friday October 13 with all student participants to get everything started. Paperwork will be due at the end of November.

Register for the Science Fair Workshop at the Carnegie Science Center, Tuesday - Oct. 25, 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm. You’ll learn all about it. RSVP Today! Please contact the science fair office at 412-237-1534 with any questions.
WEBSITES

- http://www.pjas.net/region7
- https://www.scitechfestival.org/maininsf.asp
QUESTIONS?