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## Parent Letter

Dear Parents:

As you know, science, technology, engineering, art + design, and math are basic skills expected by employers. As Twenty First Century citizens, your children will also have to make some of the toughest decisions of any generation, based on their understanding of emerging science and technology.

Science fairs get students involved in the practices of science and engineering, requiring them to apply those skills to a topic of interest to them. Scientific process and math also help children learn problem solving skills, performance measurement skills and responsibility that will prove invaluable to them in any field they follow.

The Earth Innovations Science Fair is a special program in coordination with schools in the Reno-Tahoe area. All students in grades K-12 have been invited to participate in developing a science project. Earth Innovations finals will be featured at the Reno Earth Day special event on April 22, 2018 at Idlewild Park in front of a crowd of thousands of people. Hands-on scientific investigation and invention are the focus at our particular fair this year. Over the next few weeks, your child will design, test, analyze, and present a project that uses scientific methods to explore the natural sciences, new technologies, processes and results!

Please note that the bulk of the work will be done at home. Students will be given project guidelines and timelines at school, and teachers will check in with them periodically. However, most of the work will be self-directed. Parents are encouraged to offer emotional support and reminders, but to allow children to do the projects by themselves.

We encourage you to visit the [www.earthinnovationsfair.org](http://www.earthinnovationsfair.org) for more information on the event and the science fair, or ask your child's teacher. Don't hesitate to call or email with any questions. Thank you very much in advance for your support!

Most Sincerely,

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