

# Contribution of Science Fair to Middle School Student Interest in Science Careers

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**Website:** <http://www.massscifair.com/>

This exploratory study will examine the effects of participation in Science Fair - a voluntary scientific investigation program available to middle and high school students - on students' interest in, self-efficacy, and future plans in science. It employs a quasi-experimental design where students who participate in Science Fair activities, are compared with those that do not. This study will examine middle school students': 1) interest in science topics; 2) interest in science careers; 3) reported feelings of self-efficacy; and 4) plans to pursue additional courses pre- and-post Science Fair. A report will be used to identify issues to explore in future work.