

### **2025 Champaign County Science Day Results**

On Thursday, February 20, 2025, the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Champaign County Science Day was held at Urbana High School, for Champaign County students, grades 5-12. Ninety-one students from Urbana Senior High School, Mechanicsburg Middle School and Graham Middle School and Elementary completed science research projects and presented their findings to area professionals, researchers, and educators.

This event offered students a venue that promotes the development of creative thinking, research and writing skills and career motivation toward the sciences, all in one program. Project topics may be in biology, chemistry, botany, space & earth sciences, computers, zoology, microbiology, biochemistry, physics, engineering, mathematics, medicine & health and behavioral & social science.

Forty-three students received the highest rating of “Superior”. They were, from Urbana HS – Dakota Nance, Faith Nickell, Payton Dyer , Alaina Andrews, Rebel Biggs, Sara Hildebrand, Avery Smith, Connor Endres, Maddilynne Smith, Bryce Conson , Braylan Lawson, Mollie McDonald; from Graham Elementary - Reese Barger, Ava Terrell, Lainey Heaston, Ary Massey, Peyton Croker , Rees Hedrick, Liam Kizer, Xavier Garcia; from Graham MS – Jenna Johnston, Carly Birchfield, Mackenzie Crooks, Piper Jacobs, Mallorie Erter; from Mechanicsburg MS - Ava O’Neal; Aubrey Braden, Finley O’Laughlin, Adriana Hysell, Reagan Kile, Jordan Elias, David Meeks, Raelynn Henderson, Blake Rausch, Oriana Fuentes, Hope Rammel, Eli Class, Andrew Davis, Eloise Dietrich, Kinley Flockerzie, Willow Bradley, Kylie Hoewischer. These students are eligible to go to the Upper Miami Valley Regional Science Day held at Edison State Community College in Piqua on Saturday, March 8<sup>th</sup>.

The Grand Prize Award for Best Overall Project went to Dakota Nance of Urbana HS. The award for 2<sup>nd</sup> place overall went to Faith Nickell of Urbana HS and the award for 3<sup>rd</sup> place overall went to Reese Barger & Ava Terrell of Graham Elementary..

Topic Category Awards included: Cargill Awards for Best Projects in Animal Science x 2 were Conner Endres and Eloise Dietrich & Kinley Flockerzie; Cargill Awards for Best Projects in Plant Science x 2 were Jordan Elias & David Meeks and Bailee Eyink & Ruby Forrest; Shepherd Awards for Best Projects in Chemistry, Energy or Material Science x 2 were Dakota Nance and Peyton Croker. Awards for Best Project in Environmental Science x 2 were Lainey Heaston and Payton Dyer; Awards for Best Projects in Physics x2 were Reese Barger & Ava Ferrell and Rees Hedrick; Lightle Family Science Fund Awards for Best Projects in Behavioral Science x 2 were Sara Hildebrand and Maddilynne Smith; Premier Health Awards for Medicine & Health x 2 were Avery Smith and Aubrey Braden & Finlay O’Laughlin; Lightle Family Fund Awards for Best Projects in Microbiology x 2 were Arya Massey and Ava O’Neal.

Additional awards included: Award for Best Presentation of Data went to Faith Nickell of Urbana HS; Award for Best Abstract went to Avery Smith of Urbana HS; Boonshoft Museum of Discovery – One Day Adult Pass x 4 went to Reese Barger, Ava Terrell, Lainey Heaston, Arya Massey, all from Graham Elementary and the McMurry Family “Spirit of Science” Award went to Myles Wilson & Vander James, Graham MS.

Event sponsors included Cargill, Premier Health-UVMC, the Lightle Family Science Fund, 100 Proof Press of St. Paris, David Shepherd, the McMurry Family, Boonshoft Museum of Discovery and Urbana High School. Area professionals and community members volunteered to judge the projects, aided by area science teachers. Anyone with questions about the Science Day program should contact Dr. Martin E. English, 790 E. Shoop Rd., Tipp City, OH 45371, or email: [info@ohiouvmsd.com](mailto:info@ohiouvmsd.com).