



Connecting Science



to the community



2018 Winter Edition

The Clément Laforce Award

Who was Clément Laforce and Why is Praxis Offering this Award?

Clément was for 20 years a tireless volunteer, Board member and booster for Praxis and for science and technology education and advocacy for youth. Clément passed away in August 2015. Immediately, the Praxis board knew it wanted to mark his life and his influence with an award in his name.

Who is Eligible for the Award?

Members of the community in SE Alberta served by Praxis, volunteers or educators (at any level; primary, secondary and post-secondary), who have distinguished themselves in demonstrating or promoting science and technology for youth.

What is the Award Schedule and process?

Persons or groups may submit a nomination for someone they consider worthy by using this link: www.praxismh.ca and open the on-line nomination form. The nomination deadline is February 28, 2018.



New Kits

We have purchased kits from the Science Alberta Foundation. We are searching for teachers who would be willing to use these kits in their classrooms and provide feedback so we can make them better! These kits are:

- Mega Machines
- Envirofiles I & II
- FARMS (Farm Animal Relationship Monitoring System)
- Schoolyard Ecosystems
- Waste in Our World
- Grassland Gatherings
- Wading Through Wetlands
- Math A Magic
- Common Energy Conversion Systems

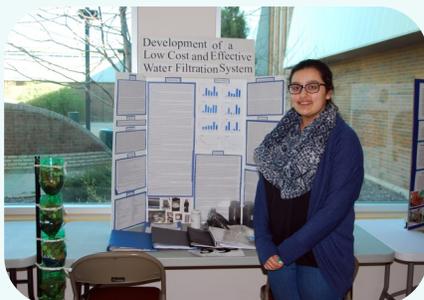
To find out more, please email praxis@praxismh.ca

Annual Kiwanis Southeast Alberta Science Fair

Although Science Fair isn't until March 24th, 2018, we would like to take this opportunity to remind you about our Science Fair 101 program.

Some students will put considerable work into their projects, but the rewards are amazing! Students learn not only the scientific process and scientific report writing, but also perseverance, presentation and critical thinking skills. Students have such a wide variety of interests, and this is an excellent chance to add some cross curricular activities into your classroom! As an alternative consider starting a Science Fair Club in your school? One or two lunch periods a month is all it takes to ignite the Science Fair bug in students.

Many students from Medicine Hat have competed at the national level and gone on to compete at Worlds. This year, the National Science Fair is being held in Ottawa, and the top projects at the Regional Science Fair will receive an all expense paid trip to Nationals. This is the highest level of competition in Canada.



Science Fair Judges Needed!

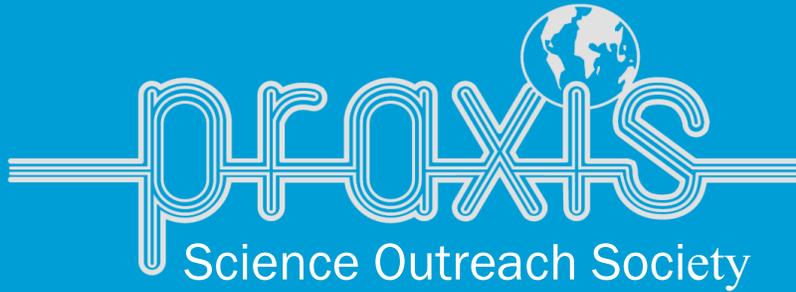
Science Fair season is upon us, and we need judges for our school science fairs. The fair schedules are set by the schools, so they are during the week, either in the morning or afternoon. Even if you can only contribute an hour, we would be grateful. A science background is not required, and on-the-spot training will be provided. If you think you might have some time, please give us a call at 403.527.5365 or email us at praxis@praxismh.ca.

MHC Drop In Tutoring

The Medicine Hat College is once again offering their FREE tutoring on a drop-in basis for grades 7-12. Instructors are available on Mondays and Wednesdays from 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm in room B307 for the following core subjects:

- Math
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- English
- Social Studies

Individuals enrolled in alternative school formats should seek tutoring through their own school programs.



praxis

Science Outreach Society

Don't forget that we've moved!
Our new address is:

#12, 826 11th Street S.E.
Medicine Hat, Alberta
T1A 1T7

Teachers Convention

SEATCA

Come and visit us this year at the Southeastern Alberta Teacher's Conference on February 22nd and 23rd. It is being held at the Medicine Hat College. Learn more about the services we offer to our catchment area. We will be taking bookings right there! We will have some kits on display for you to check out, as well as some free giveaways. Try out a science experiment or two, as well.

Operation Minerva

Operation Minerva

This year Operation Minerva will be held at Medicine Hat High School on April 20th, 2018. We are grateful to Alberta Science Women Network for their sponsorship, as well as MHHS for the use of their facilities. Without their support, we could not provide this amazing opportunity for the grade nine girls of Southeastern Alberta.

Checklist of Praxis Resources to book ASAP:

- Guest Speakers** for all S.T.E.M. subjects
- Organize **Field Trips**.
- Science Fair **Workshops** for teachers or parent councils.
- Hands on Learning Kits:**
 - ✓ Air and Aerodynamics/Flight
 - ✓ Sky Science
 - ✓ Building Things/Levers & Gears
 - ✓ Boats and Buoyancy
 - ✓ Conserving Our Environment
 - ✓ Digging For Dinosaurs
 - ✓ Electricity
 - ✓ Environmental Engineering
 - ✓ Evidence and Investigation
 - ✓ Exploring Liquids
 - ✓ Flubber
 - ✓ Hearing and Sound
 - ✓ Insects and Creepy Crawlies
 - ✓ Investigating our Watershed
 - ✓ Life Cycles
 - ✓ Magnetism
 - ✓ Rocks and Minerals
 - ✓ Trees and Forests
 - ✓ Waste & Our World
 - ✓ Weather
 - ✓ Wetlands Discovery
- Equipment::**
 - ✓ Animal Cell
 - ✓ Germination Model
 - ✓ Human Torso
 - ✓ Incubator
 - ✓ Powerhouse Model
 - ✓ Plant Cell
 - ✓ Van deGraff
 - ✓ Envirosapes

Snowflake Experiment

These two-ingredient crystal snowflakes will transform your house into a winter wonderland overnight.

What you'll need:

- ✓ Borax laundry detergent booster (I found it in the laundry aisle at Walmart for \$6)
- ✓ Water
- ✓ pipe cleaners
- ✓ String
- ✓ pencil or chopstick
- ✓ Container to hold Borax solution (must be large enough to hold snowflakes)



Step 1. Form your pipe cleaners into snowflake shapes. One long pipe cleaner can be cut into six pieces to make a simple star, or you can get fancier if you want. (Just remember that your snowflakes can't be taller or wider than the container you're going to pour your Borax solution into.)



Step 2. Use string to tie your snowflakes onto a pencil or chopstick—anything long enough to span the container you're using.



Step 3. Mix up a batch of Borax solution: 1/3 cup of Borax to 2 cups of boiling water. Stir the mixture until the Borax is dissolved, about 2 to 3 minutes.

Step 4. Submerge your pipe cleaner snowflakes in the Borax solution, making sure they don't touch the sides or bottom of your container, or each other if you're doing multiple snowflakes in one pot.



Step 5. Now just leave it overnight! Carry on about your merry way, go to sleep, and when you wake up the next morning check out your awesome crystal snowflakes!

In Partnership With:

