

2026 Darke County Science Day Results

On Thursday, February 26, 2026, the 12th Annual Darke County Science Day was held at Greenville High School for Darke County students, grades 5-12. Twenty-eight students from Arcanum, DeColores Montessori, and Tri-village schools 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.

Twenty-two students received the highest rating of “Superior”. They were: from Arcanum-Butler HS - Jean Pitman, Julia Arbogast, Micah Arbogast, Kamryn Martin, Kayla Harrison; from Arcanum-Butler MS- Harper Miller, Weston Hatfield, Tim Johnson, Chloe Rieman, Eli Huffgarden, Erinn Stewart; from DeColores Montessori – Ben Weigand, Levi Douds, Emily Strawser, Christina Conklin, Dean Davis, Joshua Leis, Sofia Royer; from Tri-village HS – Caleb Miller; from Tippecanoe HS – Aubrey Ernst; from Tippecanoe MS – Lucas McGinnis; from Upper Valley Career Center – Kaelin Steward. These students will present their projects at the Upper Miami Valley Regional Science Day held at Edison State Community College in Piqua on Saturday, March 14th.

Event sponsors donated awards and event expense funds in an amount totaling \$1,500. Sponsors included: BASF Corporation (Title Sponsor), Wayne Health Care, Cargill, and the McMurry Family. Area professionals and community members volunteered to judge the projects, aided by Darke County science teachers.

BASF Best Projects Overall were 1st Place (\$100) to Ben Weigand, DeColores Montessori, 2nd Place to Jean Pitman, Arcanum-Butler HS, 3rd Place to Emily Strawser, DeColores Montessori. Additional Special awards: BASF Award for Best Presentation of Data (\$100) Christina Conklin, DeColores Montessori; BASF Award for Best Abstract (\$100) Jean Pitman, Arcanum-Butler HS; Spirit of Science Award – McMurry Family (\$100) Teddy Miller, Tri-village HS.

Topic Category awards included: Cargill Awards in Animal Science or Plant Science or Environmental Science, 1st (\$100) Julia Arbogast & Micah Arbogast, Arcanum-Butler HS, 2nd (\$50) Caleb Miller, Tri-village HS; BASF Awards in Behavioral Science 1st (\$100) Jean Pitman, Arcanum-Butler HS, 2nd (\$50) Emily Strawser, DeColores Montessori, 3rd (\$50) Levi Douds, DeColores Montessori, 4th (\$50) Harper Miller, Arcanum-Butler MS; BASF Awards in Chemistry, Material Science, Physics 1st (\$100) Lucas McGinnis, Tippecanoe MS, 2nd (\$50) Tim Johnson, Arcanum-Butler MS; 3rd (\$50) Eli Huffgarden & Erinn Stewart, Arcanum-Butler MS; BASF Awards in Engineering or Computer Science 1st (\$100) Ben Weigand, DeColores Montessori, 2nd (\$50) Aubrey Ernst, Tippecanoe HS, 3rd (\$50) Joshua Leis, DeColores Montessori; Wayne HealthCare Awards in Medicine & Health Sciences & Microbiology 1st (\$100) Kaelin Steward, Upper Valley Career Center, 2nd (\$50) Laci Dillman, Arcanum-Butler MS.

The Upper Miami Valley Science Day Committee, the Darke County students, the Greenville Schools Science Department and the Darke County ESC all wish to thank the sponsors and volunteers for making the 2026 Darke County Science Day a successful event. 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@ohioumvsd.com