

## Selecting the Topic

The first step to begin the Exhibition is to choose a general topic of interest. The topic should represent a passion of your own, involve more than one academic discipline and lend itself to performing or constructing a project. You may ask yourself these questions while choosing a topic.

- **Why does this topic interest me?** You will be working on this project for a while, so make sure the topic is of personal interest to you.
- **Is there enough information available?** Some topics may be too specific or too recent to have enough material at the local library.
- **Can an essential question and a hands-on project be developed from this topic?** Keep in mind that the end result is a performance, object, or tangible product that reflects the research.
- **Is the topic, along with the related project, one that I would want to present to an audience?** Does it have an audio/visual element? Think about how your project will incorporate technology during the oral presentation.
- **Can this topic be sufficiently limited in scope?** It is better to have a narrow topic that is fully developed than a broad topic that is covered superficially.
- **What other subject areas might be involved with the topic?** The experience includes more than just a research paper. Consider what other academic or career areas will be involved with your topic.
- **Does this topic offer a challenge?** Pick a topic that offers you the opportunity to grow and learn new ideas about something that is of interest to you.
- **Have you (the student), your parent(s), and your Advisor agreed upon the topic?** The project is a big undertaking and you may need help along the way. Discuss your topic choice with your advisor, parent(s) and teacher(s) to keep them informed of what you are working on so they can offer advice and guide you in the process.

**Once agreement has been reached on a topic between the student, parent and Advisor, each student will turn it into an Essential Question and a write a Letter of Intent.**