



Dear Parents,

I encourage you to enter your child in the 2012 Discovery Education 3M Young Scientist Challenge. Science is all around us, and this program provides an educational and fun way for kids to learn about their world and maybe even discover their “inner scientist.” It’s an adventure to explore and understand the science of everyday life.

As you may know, the Young Scientist Challenge is the **premier national science competition** for students in grades 5 through 8. Discovery Education and 3M share a goal to inspire students to explore the wonders of science and achieve new levels of academic success. Over the past twelve years, more than 600,000 middle school students have been nominated to participate in the competition, and winners have gone on to speak in front of members of Congress, work with the nation's top scientists and pursue academic careers in the sciences.

Your child could receive recognition as a **state merit winner**, or even become one of **10 finalists participating in the Final Challenge Events and Summer Mentorship Program with a 3M Scientist**. The winner will take home the grand prize of \$25,000 and the title, **America’s Top Young Scientist!**

To enter your child in the Challenge, simply visit the website [www.youngscientistchallenge.com](http://www.youngscientistchallenge.com) and follow the steps to complete the online Parental Consent Form. Then have your child create a short video describing a new innovation or solution related to **the way we move, the way we keep ourselves healthy or the way we make a difference**. For thought starters, tips from previous winners, judging criteria and complete rules, visit [www.youngscientistchallenge.com](http://www.youngscientistchallenge.com).

The Discovery Education 3M Young Scientist Challenge promises to be an incredible journey for young participants. I hope you consider entering your child in the 2012 competition!

Sincerely,

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