



PHOTOS SPECIAL TO WEST HAWAII TODAY
 Kindergartner Anthony Tucciarone researched what it takes to make the best nest. Here, he shows off his work to those attending the science fair at Hualalai Academy.

Science scholars

STUDENTS SHOW OFF THEIR KNOWLEDGE AT FAIR

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Hualalai Academy's annual all-school science fair was held recently. Elementary, middle and high school students displayed their chosen subject matter, requiring data collection, analysis and summations.

Seventh-grader Breanna Bellatti made a few adjustments and she was off, gliding down the length of the sidewalk on her own personal hovercraft. When asked about her project, Bellatti said, "I thought it would be cool to float around, almost like I was flying. It wasn't too hard to make, but I had to adjust the plans a little bit from a leaf-blower engine to a shop-vac engine. My dad was a great support and he showed me how to use all the tools in our garage, but he wouldn't let me use the router because it is dangerous and can cut off a finger."

Middle school teacher Donna Goodale and third-grade teacher Dan Sabo organized the annual all-school event.

"Why do lemons float and limes sink?" asked sixth-grader Nicolas Palleschi.

Another question that was asked was "fertilizer or no fertilizer effects on plant growth?" by ninth-grader Whitney Pautz.

Even kindergartners were active participants in the



fair, Anthony Tucciarone researched the best materials for making nests.

Science fair judges from the community and school ohana said they were impressed by the students demonstrating their understanding of the scientific methods used.

Jackie Payne, a second-grader, built the traditional and well known model of a volcano. "I just decided to do it because I thought it would be fun! I mixed $\frac{1}{2}$ cup vinegar, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup baking soda, 6 teaspoons of soap with red coloring, and it made a chemical reaction. That makes the volcano erupt," Payne said.



Above: Seventh-grader Breanna Bellatti prepares to take off on the hovercraft she designed for Hualalai Academy's annual all-school science fair.

Left: Second-grader Jackie Payne shows off her science fair project to her fellow students and Kate Mulligan, head of the school.