

Shari Ellis: Our expert panel also emphasized the importance of investing in high quality science tools that can be used to explore many different topics. I have some examples here with me today. They include clear containers, such as these, that can be used to collect insects and other specimens and do different kinds of mixing, and of course good quality magnifying tools, both hand-held and table-top, as well as even microscopes, are wonderful tools.

The experts discouraged us from spending funds on expensive materials that have a single use. Instead, they suggest frequent use of recycled and found materials, as well as materials acquired from families or inexpensive items from hardware stores -- all materials that can be used in many ways.

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