The Display Board



When you plan your science fair board, remember this is a case in which you CAN judge a book by its cover. If you do a really good job at completing your display, everyone will stop to look at your project.  However, if you do a messy job, no one will take the time to discover all the fascinating research you have done or look at the results of your wonderful experiment or invention.

**PLAN YOUR BOARD:**
             Make a small sketch of where everything will go.  Lay it out before you glue anything down to make sure it looks good.
            Design what the "center" of your board will be.  This is where everyone will look first.  Will it be the title or pictures?   Everything else should be place around this.
            When you set up your board, put things together in an order that makes sense.  Remember, we read from left to right so don't put stuff you did near the end (like the conclusion) on the right side of the board.
            Click here for some samples.



Components of your board

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| TITLE and QUESTION - The title can be the question in a "catchy" form.  If your title is different that our question, then make sure you also include your question.  *Ex.  Your question might be, "Which bath soap cleans the best?" but your title might be "Splish Splash I Was Taking A Bath."* RESEARCH - You might want to include a short paragraph that gives the background information on which you based your hypothesis.  HYPOTHESIS - This is your educated guess based on your research.  EXPERIMENT - This is the procedure you followed to do your experiment.  It should follow the scientific method and include:  Materials, Procedure, Constants and variables DATA - These are your results displayed in a way that your audience can understand. It is usually displayed in a table, graph, or photographs.   It is an "analysis" of what you have done.  CONCLUSION - This is a statement of whether your hypothesis was right or not;  if it wasn't right, why you think it turned out the way it did, and what you do differently next time.  **EXTRAS**: You should at least one of the following: [ILLUSTRATIONS](file:///Users/kristenc/Desktop/SL%20Science%20Fair%20Website/Content%20Pages/displayboard.html#ILLUSTRATIONS:) - These can be photographs that you took or off the web, that enhance your project.  They can also be containers or labels of products you used in your project.  |

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**COLORS AND TEXT:**
1.  You can use the labels that come with your board or create your own.  Labels created on the computer can be very effective.  Try using a different font or color for each of the labels.
2.  Use colors that are appealing.  They should contrast with your board color.  If you have a white board, make your text a bright color(s).  Try backing your text with colored paper to make your words alive.
3.  Type your text or print it neatly.    Use stencils or premade letters if you prefer.  Make your lettering  large enough for everyone to see.  If you print it, use pencil first and draw guidelines to make sure your writing is neat.  Go over your writing with permanent marker and make sure you erase your guidelines.

**DISPLAY YOUR DATA:**
You may display your data in a table or graph.  Make sure your graph reflects the kind of data you have collected.

 A line graph demonstrates change over time.

 A bar/picture graph demonstrates a comparison between two or more things.

 A circle/pie graph compares parts to the whole.  Graphs and tables should be neatly done.   Use computer generated graphs and tables or make them yourself. Use a ruler and colored pencils or markers to make them really eye appealing.
 **ILLUSTRATIONS:**
Sometimes your results can be shown by photographs or pictures. Photographs and pictures also enhance a display, especially if you don't have the actual experiment because you used something that can't be displayed (i.e. pets, family members).  You may also use computer generated graphics or [photographs](http://www.freestockphotos.com/) off the internet.  [Free Stock Photos.com](http://www.freestockphotos.com/)  and  [Net Vet](http://netvet.wustl.edu/pix.htm) are good sites for pictures of animals and other scientific topics.   Check to see if you have permission to use them.

**FINISHING TOUCHES:**

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|  Make sure you proofread all your written work.  Use rulers.  Don't use pencils. It looks unfinished.  Erase all pencil guidelines.  |