

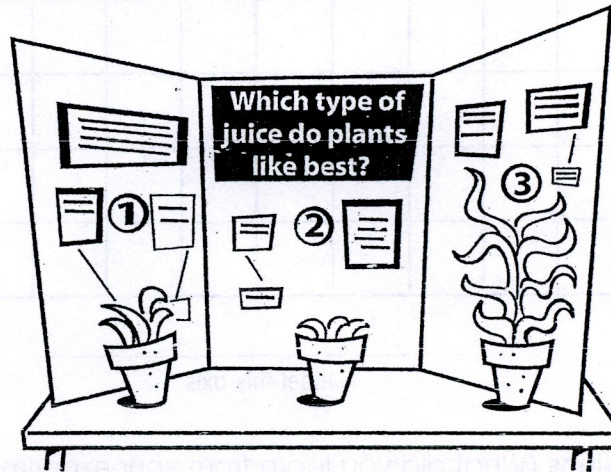
10 Tips to Creating a Winning Display

Name: _____ Date: _____

Your project display is the first thing that people will see when they stop by your booth at the science fair—so you'll want it to look fabulous!

What is a display? A science-fair display is made up of a sturdy backboard that shows off the key points of your project. Your display should include the following: project title, your question, hypothesis, experiment (including materials and procedure), data (including tables, graphs, charts, and photos if you have some), results, conclusions, and future experiment plans. Your display should also include your science-project report and any other items that will help people understand your project, like models or equipment that you used during your experiment.

It is important that your display be neat, colorful, and organized. Below are some tips to designing an award-winning display.



1. Your backboard should be an upright board that sits on top of a table and is able to support itself. It is usually three-sided, but it does not have to be. *
2. The backboard should be no larger than 108 inches (274 cm) high, including the exhibit table, 30 inches (76 cm) deep, and 48 inches (122 cm) wide.
3. You can either buy a pre-made backboard or build your own from heavy cardboard or pieces of wood, attached by hinges. Steer clear of thin poster board or cardboard because they bend too easily. A company called Showboard sells pre-made backboards (www.showboard.com or 1-800-323-9189).
4. Use computer graphics or self-stick letters to create headings for each part of your display. Make sure your lettering is easy to read.

* a project board can be purchased at Wal*mart or an office supply store fairly inexpensively.

10 Tips to Creating a Winning Display

(continued)

Name: _____ Date: _____

5. Type the following parts of your display. Use spell check before you print out the pages. Also, remember that you have limited space on your backboard, so plan ahead.
 - **Project title:** Your project title should be large enough to be read from a distance of roughly 3 feet (1 meter). Use larger letters for your title than for anything else on your board. This will help it to stand out.
 - **Your question**
 - **Your hypothesis**
 - **Experiment** (including materials and procedure): Summarize your experiment so that it fits on one or two sheets of paper.
 - **Data** (including tables, graphs, charts, and possibly even photos): If possible, use a color printer to create colorful graphs and tables.
 - **Results:** Summarize your results so that they fit on one sheet of paper.
 - **Conclusions:** Your conclusions should be a summary of what you learned. You should try to do this in a paragraph or two. Also, say whether or not your hypothesis is correct.
 - **Future experiment plans:** As you experimented, you probably thought up new questions, or even how you might do the experiment differently if you were to do it again. Share those ideas in this section.
6. Use colors on your display, but don't get too flashy or the colors could be distracting.
7. Before you stick anything to your backboard, lay the letters and pages onto the board. Space things out evenly and neatly. Rearrange things until it looks just right!
8. Use rubber cement or double-sided tape to post your papers. Avoid using white school glue because it can cause paper to wrinkle.
9. Don't forget to gather any models or other props that you'll want to display on the day of the science fair.
10. Don't forget that your project report and project summary are part of your display! When you set up your display at the science fair, remember to place them on the table in front of your backboard.

Plan Your Display

Name: _____ Date: _____

Use a pencil and this blank backboard panel to sketch out how you plan to arrange your display. Erase and sketch again until you are happy with the way your display looks!

Keep in mind that your display should include all of the following: project title, your question, hypothesis, experiment (including materials and procedure), data (including tables, graphs, charts, and photos if you have some), results, conclusions, and future experiment plans. Usually, your project title should be centered at the top of the middle panel.

	Project Title	
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PROJECT DISPLAY

THE WINNING DISPLAY

The display should be eye-catching and creative, yet straightforward and well organized. This can be a tough balance. Remember:

- The real purpose of the display is to summarize the project. It should not contain any extra data or unnecessary graphics.
- The audience is seeing the project for the first time. Make sure everything is explained clearly.
- Required categories, such as question, hypothesis, procedure, materials, results, and conclusions, should be arranged in a logical sequence on the display board.
- Charts, graphs and tables should be clearly labeled, with units of measurement clearly indicated; all photos and illustrations should have captions.
- The table top is the perfect place to display some of the materials and critical parts of your procedure. Make sure students plan ahead.

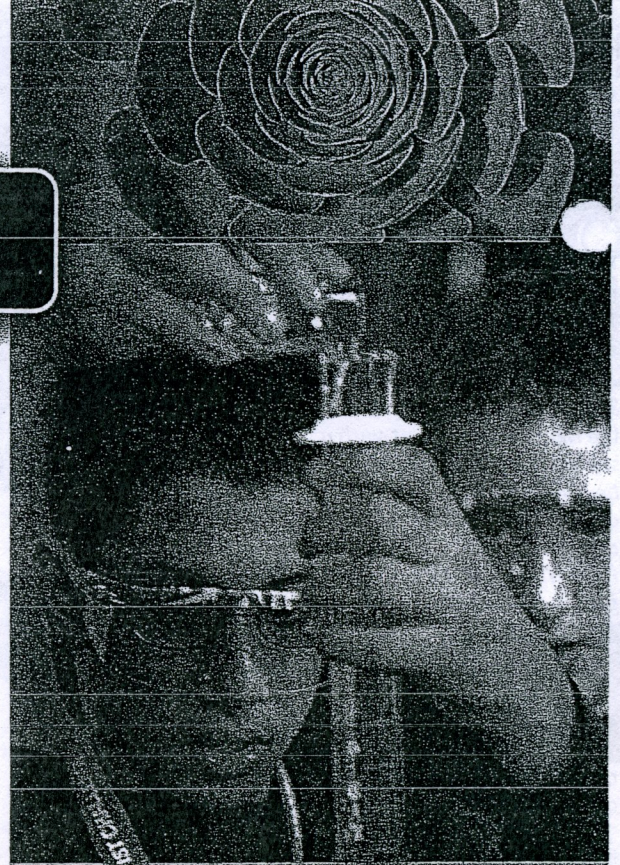
Tips for students:

- Take photos of the project far enough in advance so they can be developed (and redone if necessary).
- Sketch out the layout before cutting and gluing items on the board.
- Proofread every line of text—including captions and labels—before cutting them out and gluing them on the board.
- Use rubber cement to attach pieces to the display board. Other materials may cause wrinkling or bleeding.

ITEMS FOR DISPLAY

Students should start planning their displays as soon as they begin their projects. Some of the items that should be on display are:

- Pictures taken during the experiment
- Data notebook or background research notebook
- Any equipment or material used in the experiment (*that is not excluded by the rules*)
- Abstract
- Title (as a header at the top of the display board)
- Hypothesis
- Procedure
- Results
- Conclusions
- Applications
- Charts, graphs, tables, or other visual aids
- Statistics, where appropriate



ELMER'S SCIENCE FAIR CHECKLIST:

- Project display boards
- Project protector
- Science titles
- Header cards
- Adhesive products, such as glue sticks, rubber cement, or school glue
- Paint pens
- Letters and numbers stencil kit

SHOW WHAT YOU KNOW!

How to create effective and informative presentation boards.

Successful projects begin with the right supplies; start with a sturdy foam display board and be sure to keep glue, scissors and a ruler on hand. Always do a layout of your presentation first. When you are satisfied, glue it all into place.

Create a short, catchy headline that can be read from about 3 ft. away. Mounting it on a header card ensures an eye catching and stable display.

Use a subhead to describe your headline in more detail.

Stick - on letters and project titles can make headings look great.

Photos, charts, graphs and illustrations create interest and visually identify your subject matter.

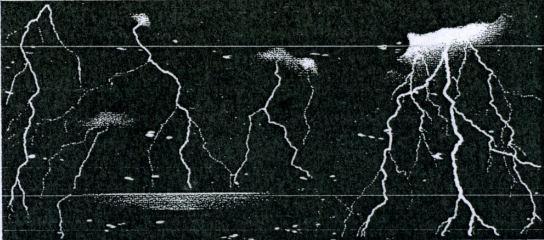
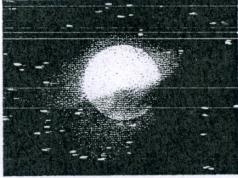
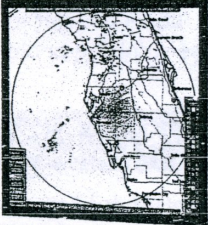
TITLE

Predicting Severe Weather

MATERIALS

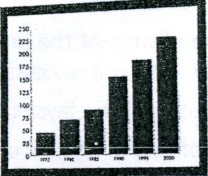
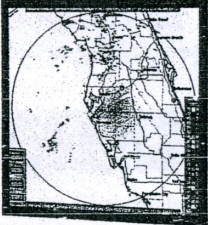
PROBLEM

HOW DO METEOROLOGISTS FORECAST STORMS?

What is a Doppler radar map?

DATA

PROCEDURE

What types of maps are used in forecasting?

- Satellite
- Temperature
- Radar
- Wind Speed
- Precipitation
- Front

National Weather Service issues severe weather alerts for:

- Hurricanes
- Severe Thunderstorms
- Tropical Storms
- Flash Floods
- Tornadoes
- Winter Weather

CONCLUSION



Discovery
EDUCATION

Checklist for a Good Display: Do You Have What It Takes?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Does your display have what it takes to wow the judges? Below is a checklist of what judges are looking for when they stop by to check out your display. Before you attach anything to your backboard, make sure you have checked everything off this list!

- Does your backboard meet the size requirements?
(no larger than 108 inches (274 cm) high, including the exhibit table,
30 inches (76 cm) deep, and 48 inches (122 cm) wide)
- Can your backboard stand up all on its own?
- Does your display include all of the following?
 - ___ Project title
 - ___ Your question
 - ___ Hypothesis
 - ___ Experiment (including materials and procedure)
 - ___ Data (including tables, graphs, charts, and possibly even photos)
 - ___ Results
 - ___ Conclusions
 - ___ Future experiment plans
- Is your display arranged in a way that is easy to follow and understand?
- Are your project title and other headings large enough to be read from a distance of roughly 3 feet (1 meter)?
- Is your display typed?
- Is your display colorful, but not so flashy that it is distracting?
- Is your display neat?
- Is everything spelled properly?