10 Tips to Creating a Winning Display

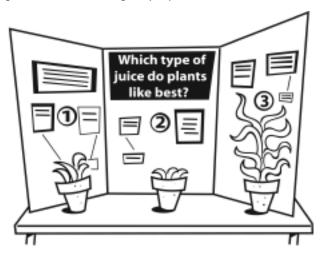
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Your project display is the first thing that people will see when they stop by your booth at the science fair-so you'll want it to look fabulous!

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 1-800-365-6661).
- 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.

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	display. Use spell check before you pri hat you have limited space on your
a distance of roughly 3 feet (1	nould be large enough to be read from meter). Use larger letters for your title board. This will help it to stand out.
Your question	
Your hypothesis	
• Experiment (including materials experiment so that it fits on one	s and procedure): Summarize your e or two sheets of paper.
	charts, and possibly even photos): If create colorful graphs and tables.
• Results: Summarize your results	so that they fit on one sheet of pape
	should be a summary of what you his in a paragraph or two. Also, say is correct.
up new questions, or even how	u experimented, you probably thoug y you might do the experiment again. Share those ideas in this section
6. Use colors on your display, but d be distracting.	on't get too flashy or the colors could
	r backboard, lay the letters and page it evenly and neatly. Rearrange thing
8. Use rubber cement or double-sid using white school glue because	ded tape to post your papers. Avoid e it can cause paper to wrinkle.
9. Don't forget to gather any mode display on the day of the scienc	els or other props that you'll want to e fair.
your display! When you set up yo	port and project summary are part of our display at the science fair, a table in front of your backboard.

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Plan Your Display

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

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Does your display have what it takes to wow the judges? Below is a checklist of wha judges are looking for when they stop by to check out your display. Before you attack 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?