

Tips for an Amazing Science Display

- Give yourself at least two weeks after your project is completed to create your display.
- The display consists of three elements: 1) the backboard, 2) the log book, 3) the bibliography.
- Use the format and layout suggested in your *Science and Engineering Fair Handbook* to complete the display backboard.
- **Use a display board with a color background** instead of a white background. Black, red, blue, and green work well.
- **Print out all of your typed words on white paper**. If you do not have access to a printer, you may type into Google Docs or Sheets (in your Google Apps Learn on your Launchpad) and share with your teacher, who can arrange printing for you if you speak to them. If you choose to ask for the help of your teacher, do it at least a week ahead of when you will need it, as your teacher may not have quick access to a printer.
- All printed text (other than the title and question) should be in black and in a plain font. All fonts should be large and simple enough to read easily. You may want to purchase themed patterned scrapbooking paper from a craft store to use on the board to frame your printed text paper. Solid colors also work well and they are more durable than construction paper.
 - Trim your white paper and then place the color paper behind it as a frame.
 - Use no more than two solid colors (besides the background).
 - Choose bold primary and secondary colors that complement the backboard.
- Die-cut items from the scrapbook section make nice themed decorations for your board.
- **ONLY use contact cement as an adhesive**. Do not use traditional Elmers Glue or glue sticks, which do not dry flat, and do not last, respectively.
- Do not forget your **data, graphs and pictures!** (Watch videos for how to convert data in spreadsheets into graphs.) Photo credit is given on the display (e.g. "Pictures taken by student").
- Never decorate your board with items that are three dimensional - or any food items. Keep it neat and simple! The board should fold and lie flat.
- Leave off anything that identifies the student's last name or their school.
- Consider adding velcro to close the board and protect its contents during transport. Large Binder clips also work well.
- Your **Log Book** is part of the display. Keep it simple and **use only a traditional composition book**. If a team is completing a project, both team members need a log book.
- Organize your logbook as you complete the project and tab required elements (with Post-its), so that the judges can find them easily.
- Include your properly formatted **bibliography** separately in a folder.
- Practice pointing and describing! **Be prepared to present the information on your board.**