

# It's Time to Make Your Project Board!

## PLAN YOUR BOARD:



1. Make a small sketch of where everything will go. Lay it out before you glue anything down to make sure it looks good.
2. Design where the "center" of your board will be. This is where everyone will look first. The title should be in the center. You could also place interesting pictures in this area.
3. When you set up your board, put things together in the order that makes sense. Remember, we read from left to right so don't put information you did near the end (like the conclusion) on the left side of the board.

## COMPONENTS OF YOUR BOARD:

You should have the following components on your board:



Figure 7.1 Example of a Good Display

**TITLE** - The title can be the question in a "catchy" form. Ex. *Your title might be "Splish Splash I Was Taking A Bath."*

**PROBLEM OR PURPOSE** - 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.

**This component is NOT required.**

**HYPOTHESIS**- This is your educated guess based on your research.

**MATERIALS AND METHODS**- This part may also be called materials and procedure.

**DATA AND GRAPH** - 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. If you have a table and a graph, then both should be on the board. Graphs should be printed in color. If you don't have a color printer, have your parents email the graph to me at [ahorn@hilldaleps.org](mailto:ahorn@hilldaleps.org).

**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 have at least one of the following:

**ILLUSTRATIONS** - Sometimes your results can be shown by pictures. 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). You may also use computer generated graphics or photographs off the internet. Do not place any pictures on your board that show faces of people. Also, you must give credit to your pictures and graphs.

**ACTUAL MODEL OR EXPERIMENT** - This is the actual equipment you did at home or a model of your topic.

*Ex. If your question was "Does age affect lung capacity?", you might make a model of the human lung or have the actual equipment you used to test this experiment.*



## **COLORS AND TEXT:**

1. You can use the labels that you buy 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 come 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.

## FINISHING TOUCHES:



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

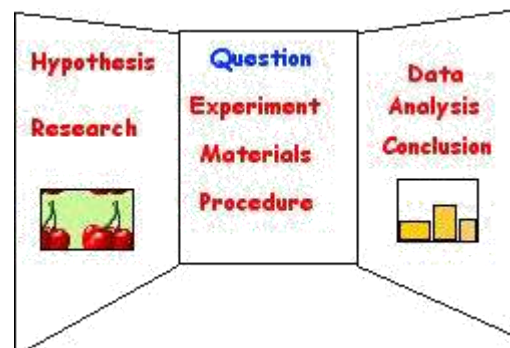
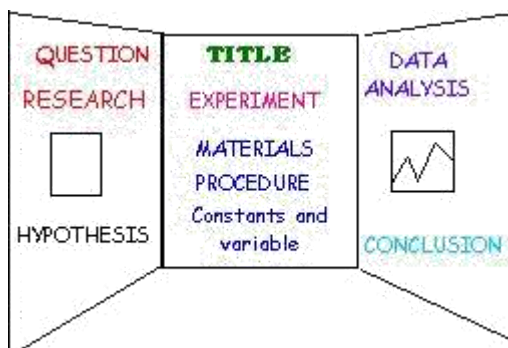
## SAMPLE LAYOUTS:

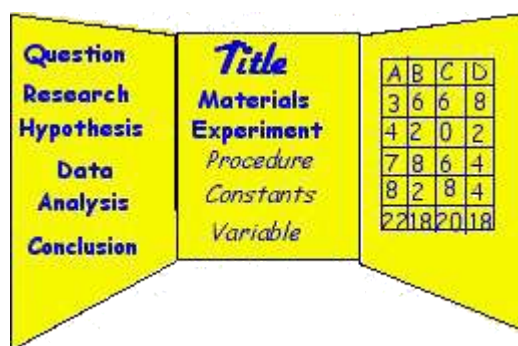
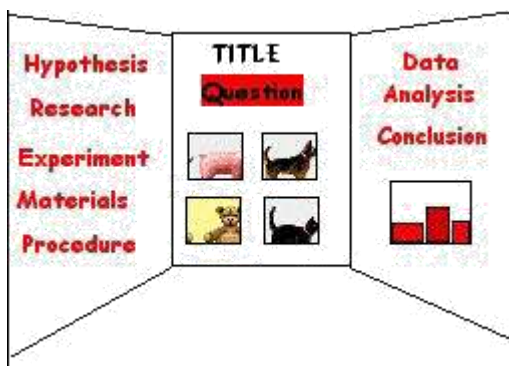
There is no one correct way to set up your board. It must, however, make sense and follow the steps of the scientific method. Remember:

- If you use a title, you still need the question (or problem).
- We read from left to right and from top to bottom. Group topics that go together like question, research, and hypothesis; materials and procedures; analysis and conclusion.
- Put pictures and graphs where they fit best and make the most sense.
- Make sure you proofread any written work.



Try backing your words with a contrasting color.





Great Sites that show sample project boards:

<http://school.discoveryeducation.com/sciencefaircentral/Science-Fair-Presentations/How-to-Create-a-Winning-Science-Fair-Display-Board.html>

[http://www.sciencebuddies.org/science-fair-projects/project\\_display\\_board.shtml#samples](http://www.sciencebuddies.org/science-fair-projects/project_display_board.shtml#samples)

Day of the Science Fair:

You need to bring

1. Project Board
2. 1 copy of research paper stapled or in a clear folder
3. 1 separate copy of your abstract
4. Project Book (Handwritten data)
5. Models of Experiment to be placed in front of project board