



Science Fair Board Checklist for EPISD District Science Fair
Sun Country Regional Science Fair and
Texas Science and Engineering Fair

Keep in mind that this is the only time you will show others what a great job you have done on research, experimentation, and what you learned over all. **Presentation DOES matter.**

- Photos must be cited as follows: “All photos taken by student researcher.” If pictures were taken by someone other than the student researcher put the name of the person who took the picture. Citation should read: “All photos taken by _____.”
- Photos can only be of researcher. If photos of other participants are included, the student researcher must cover the face (use a sticker) or have written media release from each person in the photographs. No license plates or other identifiable information.
- Brand names and labels cannot be included. Written permission to use brand names or labels must be obtained from companies in order to use them. If permission is obtained, it must be included in the student’s journal and bibliography in case a fair official should ask for the information.
- Graphs must be cited as follows: “All graphs created by _____.”
- Graphs must include a title, title for x and y-axis, intervals clearly marked and labeled, X – axis is the independent variable, and the Y-axis is the dependent variable.
- Graphs and table should be a full page in size and in color. Landscape printing recommended.
- Ensure all information is adhered firmly to board. Adhesive spray works best. **NO STAPLES!**
- No food items, rare earth magnets, soil, open cell batteries, or glass are allowed on the board.
- Displays must be approved by Display & Safety Committee. Models or displays may not contain rare earth magnets, open cell batteries, glass, soil, or food items.
- Abstract should be free standing in a picture frame or an easel. Print on white cardstock for best results. The Abstract may be taped vertically from the edge of the table.

For additional tips on construction of display board, please visit:

Science Buddies

http://www.sciencebuddies.org/science-fair-projects/project_display_board.shtml#keyinfo

Science Fair Extravaganza and select “Display”

<http://sciencefair.math.iit.edu/>

**Ask your teacher for suggestions and help.
Don’t wait until the last minute to prepare your board!**



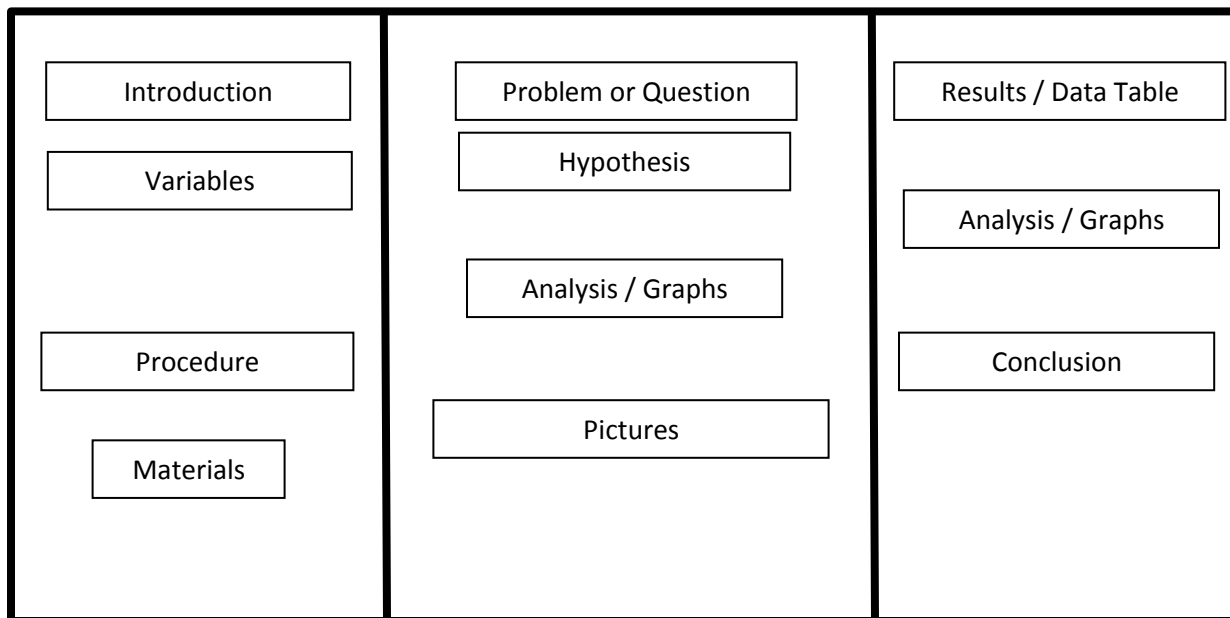
Board Layout Guide

For science fair projects, you need to prepare a display board to communicate your work to others. You will need a three-panel display board that unfolds to **36" tall by 48" wide**. They come in various colors. Think about your project and how a colored background will affect your presentation. Sometimes white is best and color is added in other areas. You can reuse an old board by resurfacing the board. Be open to suggestions. Some boards come with a separate header. This type of board provides additional space on the board for information but will cost a bit more than a board without a header.

Plan ahead! The board layout and construction can **take several hours** if done thoughtfully and with a goal in mind – to show your work off to others!

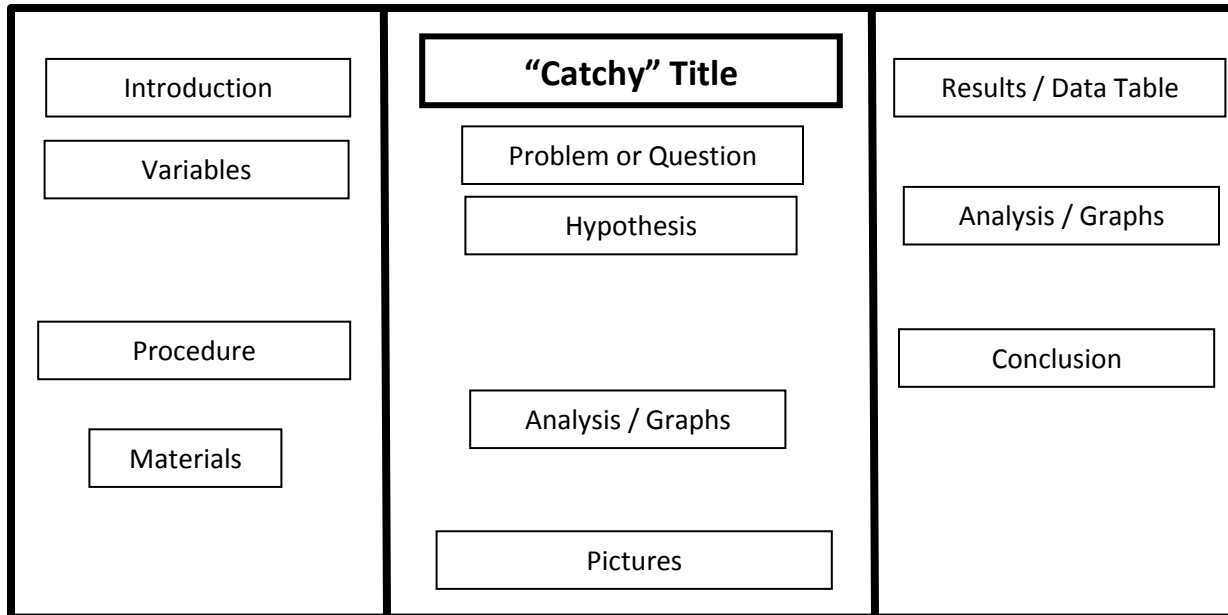
Layout suggestion 1

"Catchy" Title



Only the Abstract is REQUIRED, the other 2 items are optional.....however, this is the proof of the work that was done. **The Abstract and an Introduction can be added to the board but are optional.**

Layout suggestion 2



Tips for Layout and Construction

Plan ahead! Students are highly encouraged to do a “dry run” of their board information. That means print everything, cut-n-trim to size, & lay it out on the board **without glue**. Use recycled white paper if you have some available to save on paper. Determine where you will place things, is it too cluttered, will it be easy to follow the flow of the presentation. Once you have decided the right font size, location of items, what paper to use & ink color print it all.

- ✓ **Project titles** should be large enough to be seen from 20 feet away.
- ✓ **Subtitles** should be large enough to see from 10 feet away.
- ✓ **Content** should be easy to read such as a font 16, Times New Roman – depending on how much information is on the board. *Font style must be easy to read by all judges, not just look cool or pretty.*
- ✓ Use color but sparingly & wisely, using it to draw the eye to important information.
- ✓ Make the board attractive but not cluttered. An unorganized and busy board will destroy the visual representation of your hard work.
- ✓ Printing on colored paper with black ink, black ink on white and colored paper as layered background is better than using colored ink on colored paper. Determine which materials you have available and work with those to your advantage.
- ✓ Save the color for the graph and pictures. This is what the judges want to see. A picture can tell a story.