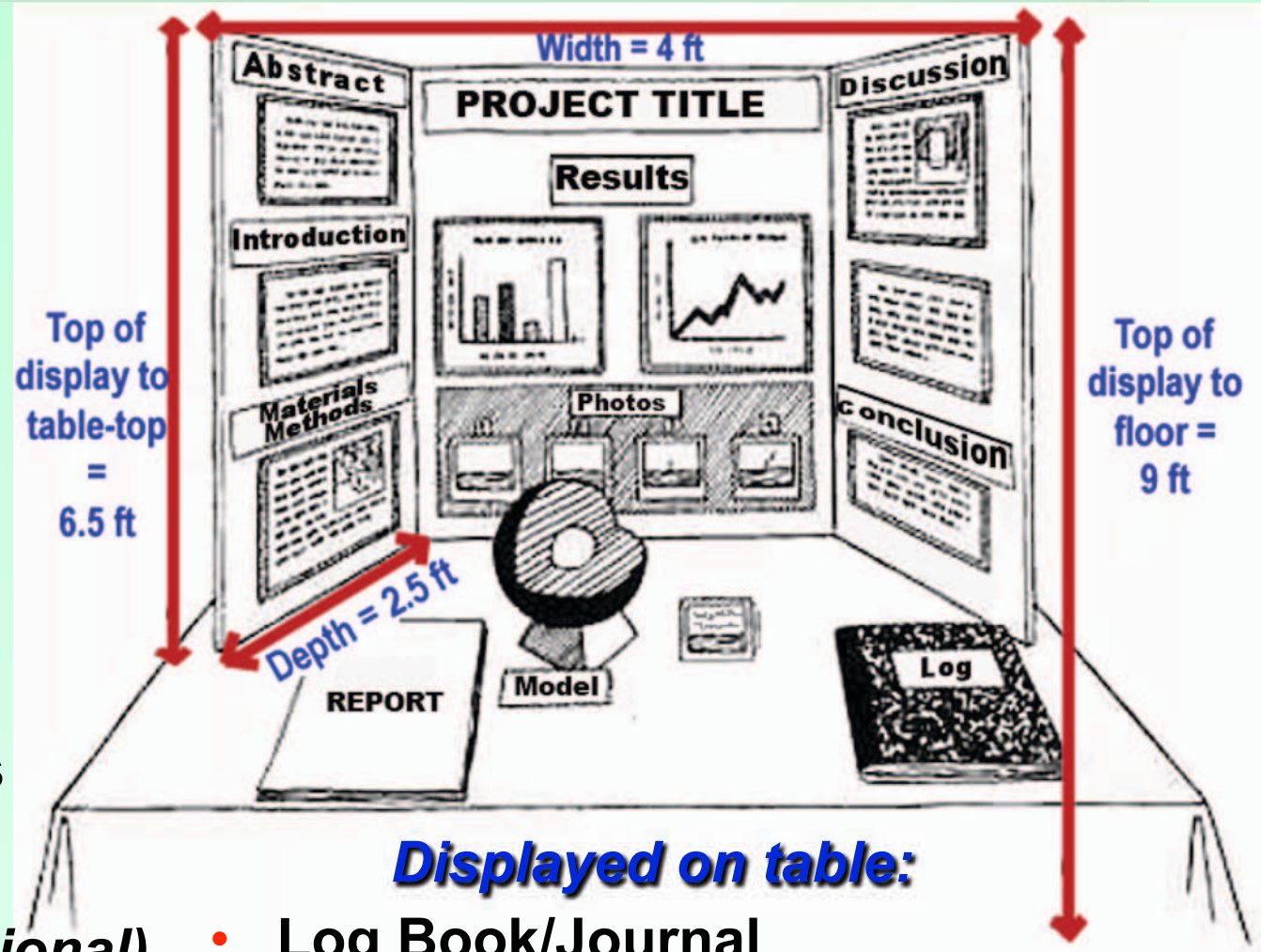


How to Create Award-Winning Displays



Mandatory Sections (Sr)

- Abstract
- Introduction
- Materials & Methods
- Results
 - Data Tables
 - Graphs
 - Observations
- Discussion
- Conclusion (*optional*)
- Name/school on back



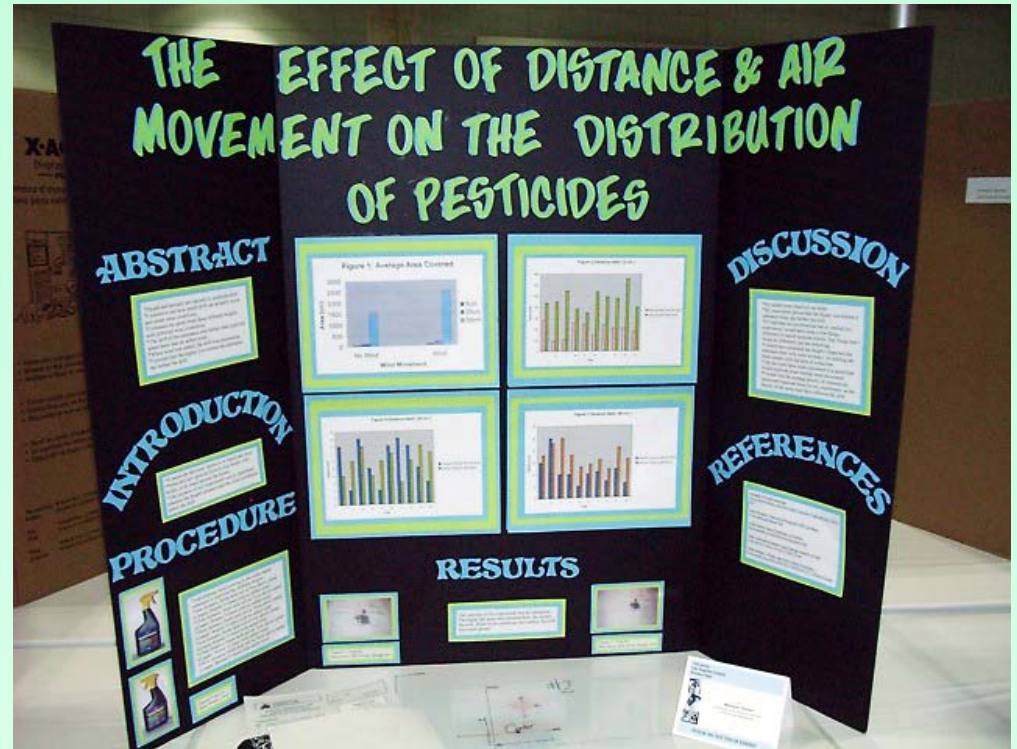
Displayed on table:

- Log Book/Journal
- Research Report w/ References
- Acknowledgements (*optional*)

Mandatory Sections (Jr)

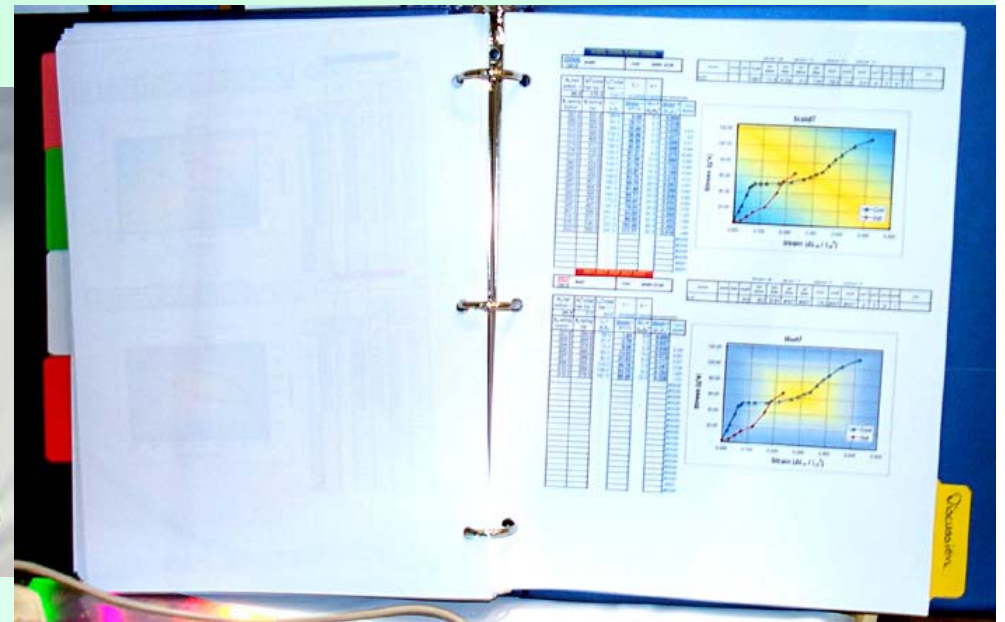
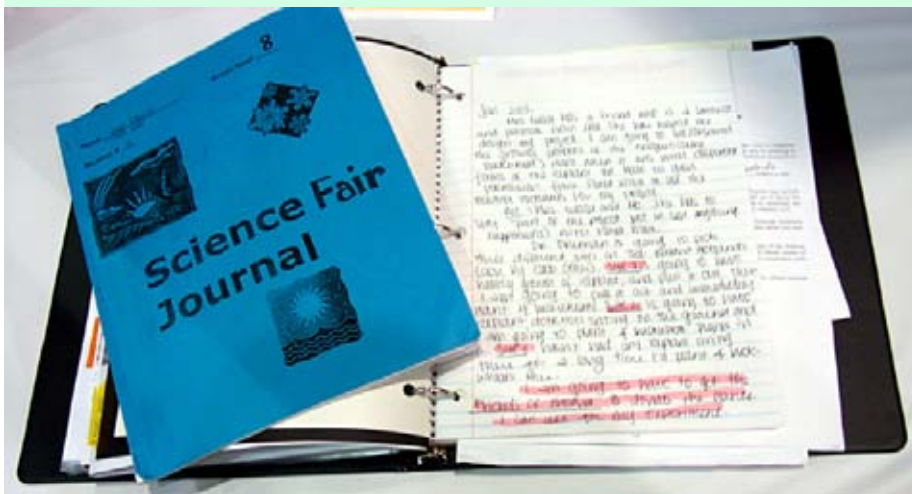
(Jr. Division has more latitude in section titles...)

- Abstract
- Problem & Hypothesis
- Introduction/Background
- Materials & Methods/Procedure)
- Results (Data)
 - Data Tables & Graphs
 - Observations
- Discussion
- Conclusion (*optional*)
- Acknowledgments (*optional*)
- Name & school on back
- ***Displayed on table:*** Log Book/Journal Research Report w/ references



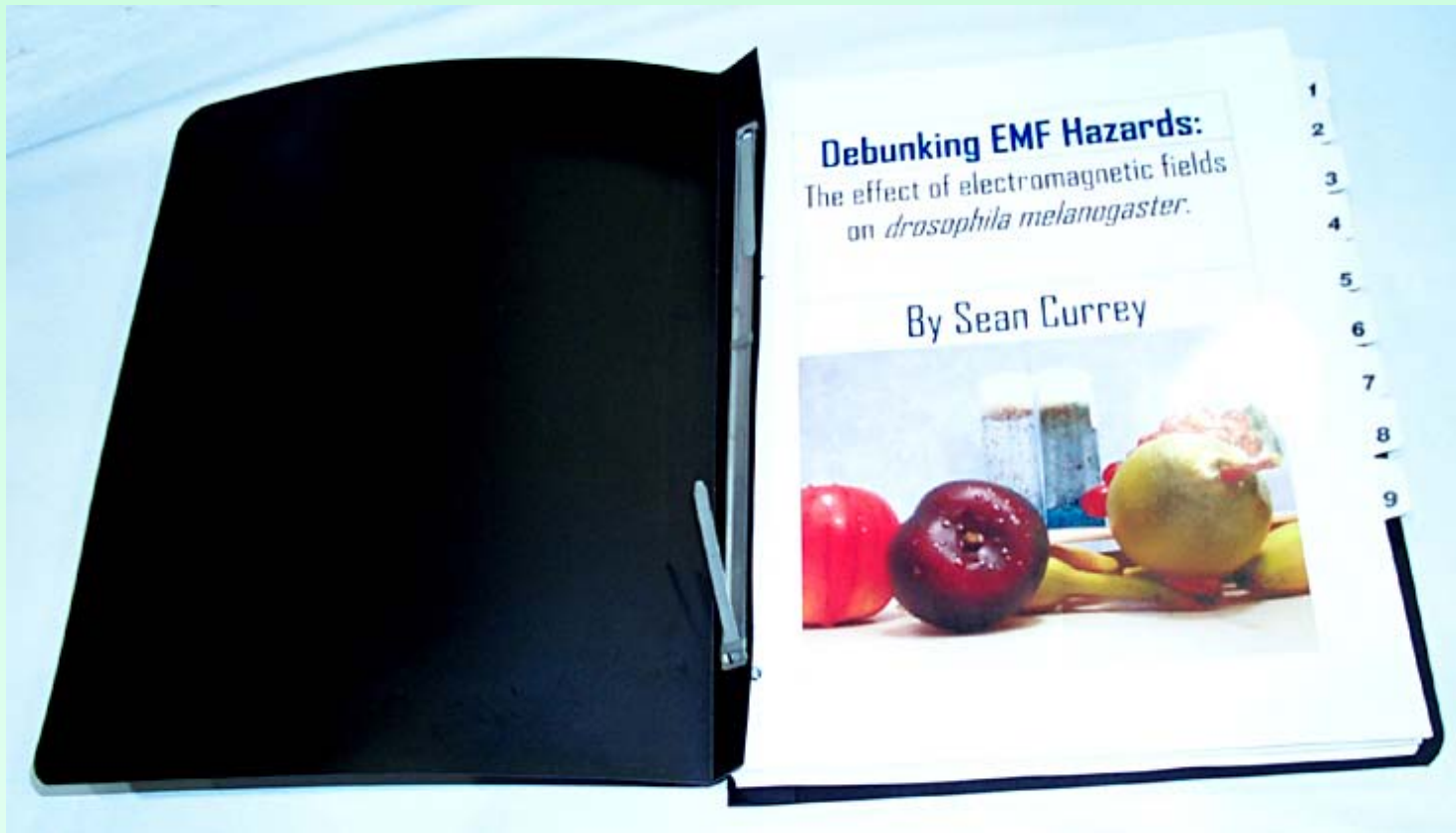
Have Your Log Book Present

- A "journal", detailing all activities
- Include actual data collected
- Additional relevant materials



Include a Formal Report

- ALL reports should be typed
- Follow format and sequence



Display All Elements

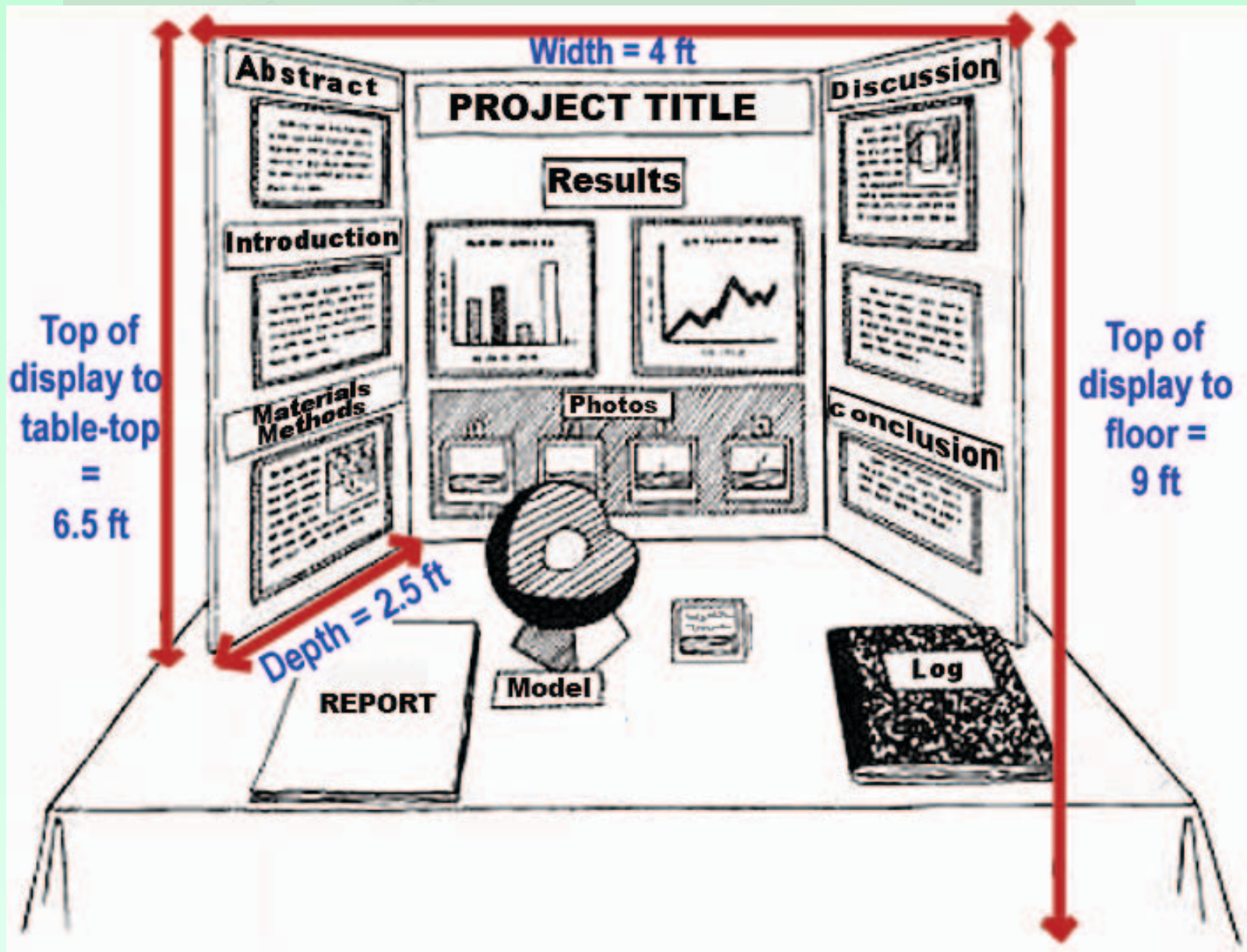
- Log Books/Journals should follow proper format and sequence



The Display Board

- **Maximum Size:**
 - **2.5 ft deep** (*front to back*),
 - **4 ft wide** (*side to side*)
 - **6.5 ft high** (*project on table*)
 - **9 ft high** (*project on floor*)
- **3-sided, hinged**
- **Must be sturdy, able to stand alone**
- **Name & School on back**

Display Board Sizes



Too Tall To Read

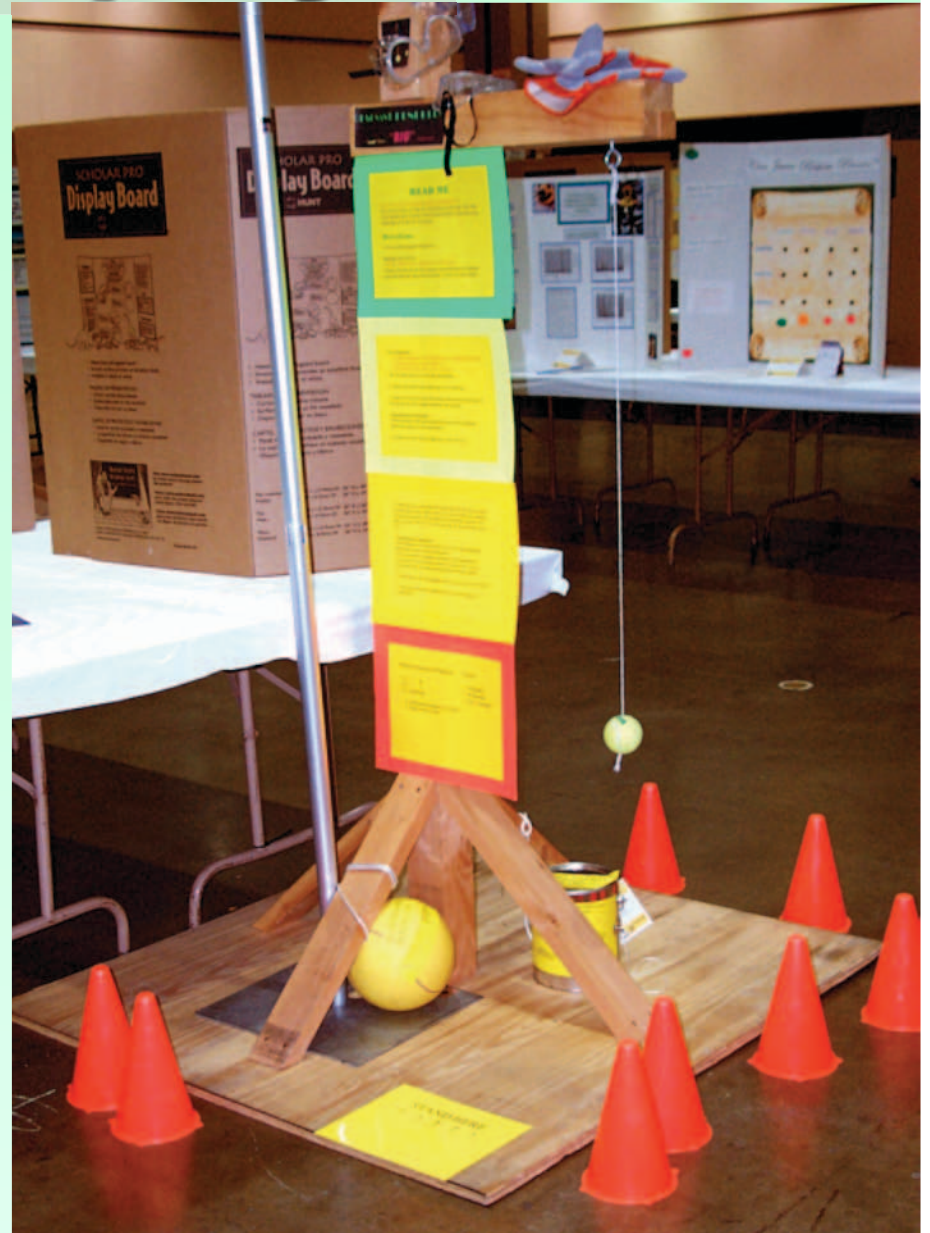


Too Small



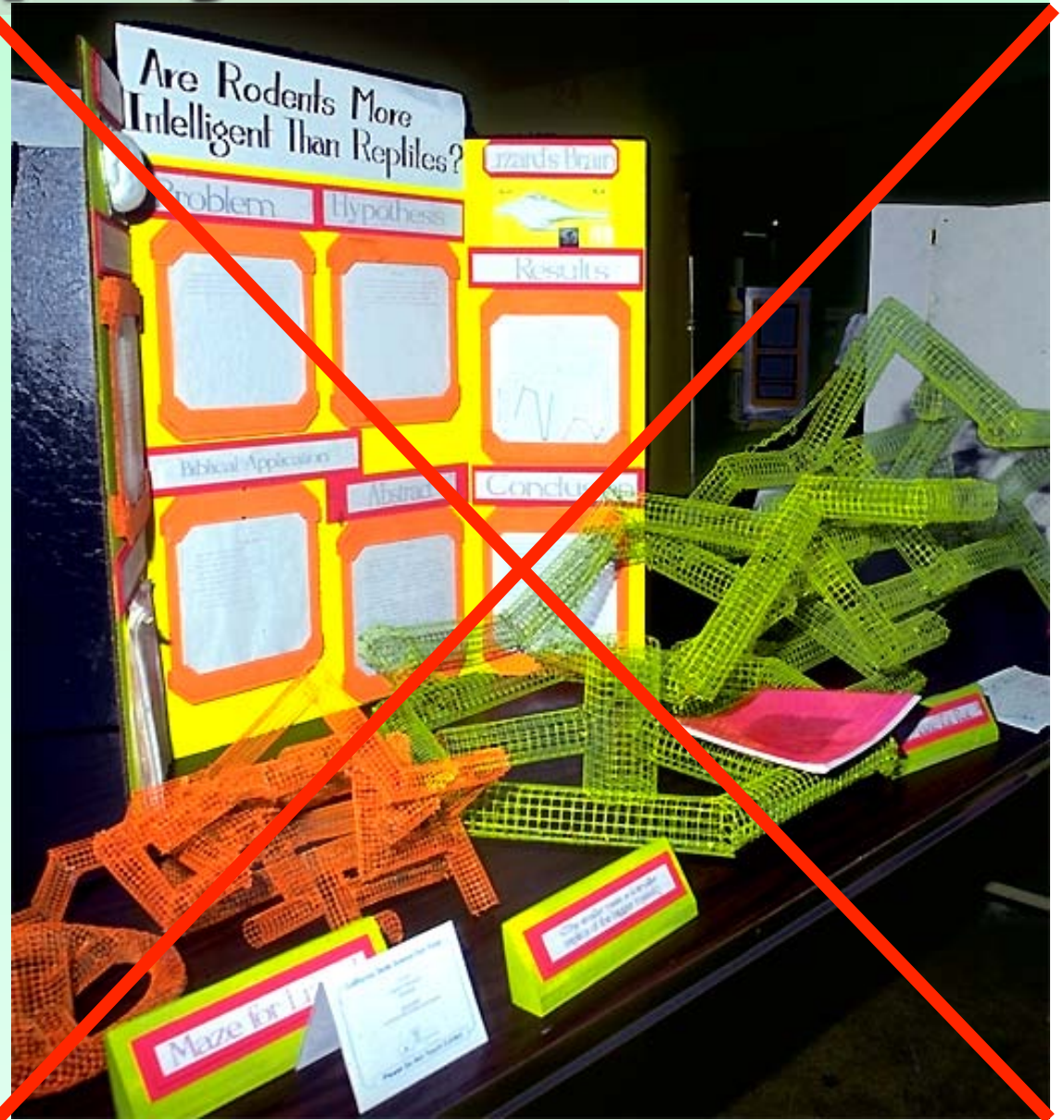
Floor Displays

- Must be safe and keep to height requirements (9 ft)



Display Size

- **Stay within fair space requirements**
 - **Board size**
 - **Table size**



Construction

- Display should **stand alone**
- Pieces should **NEVER** fall off!



Common Materials

- Foam Core Board
- Colored Cardboard
- Plywood or particle board



Uncommon Materials

- PVC Piping
- Lattice Fencing
- Peg-board
- Plastic



Titling Size & Content

- **Main Title:** 3+ *in*
- **Subtitles:** 2+ *in*
- **Text:**
 - 14+ font
 - Bold
 - Concise
 - *Understandable*

JR exhibit
example

QUESTION

How will atmospheres with carbon dioxide concentrations of 700ppm and 1400ppm affect *Mentha piperita*?

HYPOTHESIS

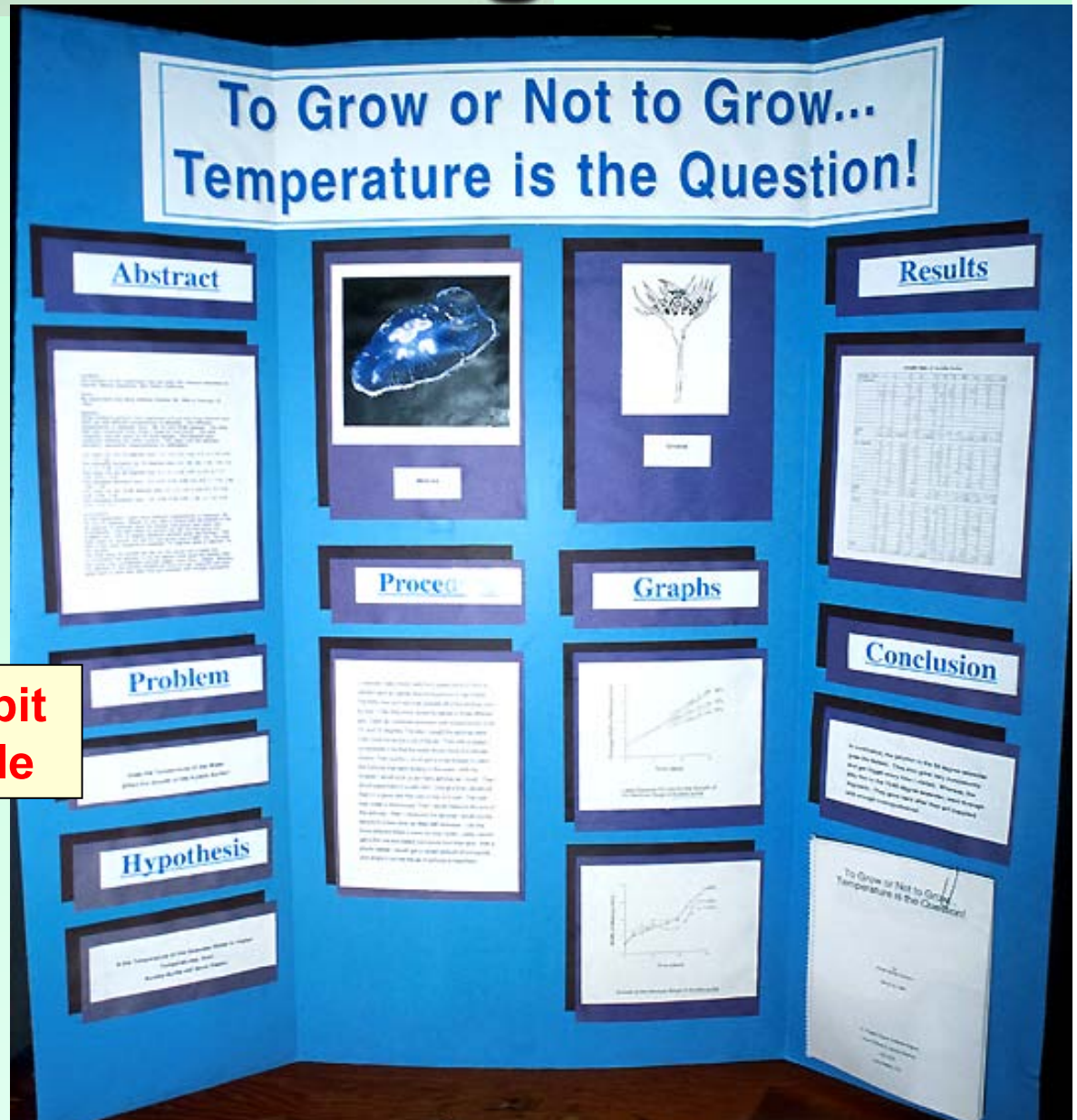
I think that due to the higher amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, the plants will perform photosynthesis at a faster rate thus increasing their growth rates. This, in turn, will make them larger and more plentiful.

Formatting

- Make sure all sections are neatly & clearly displayed

JR exhibit example

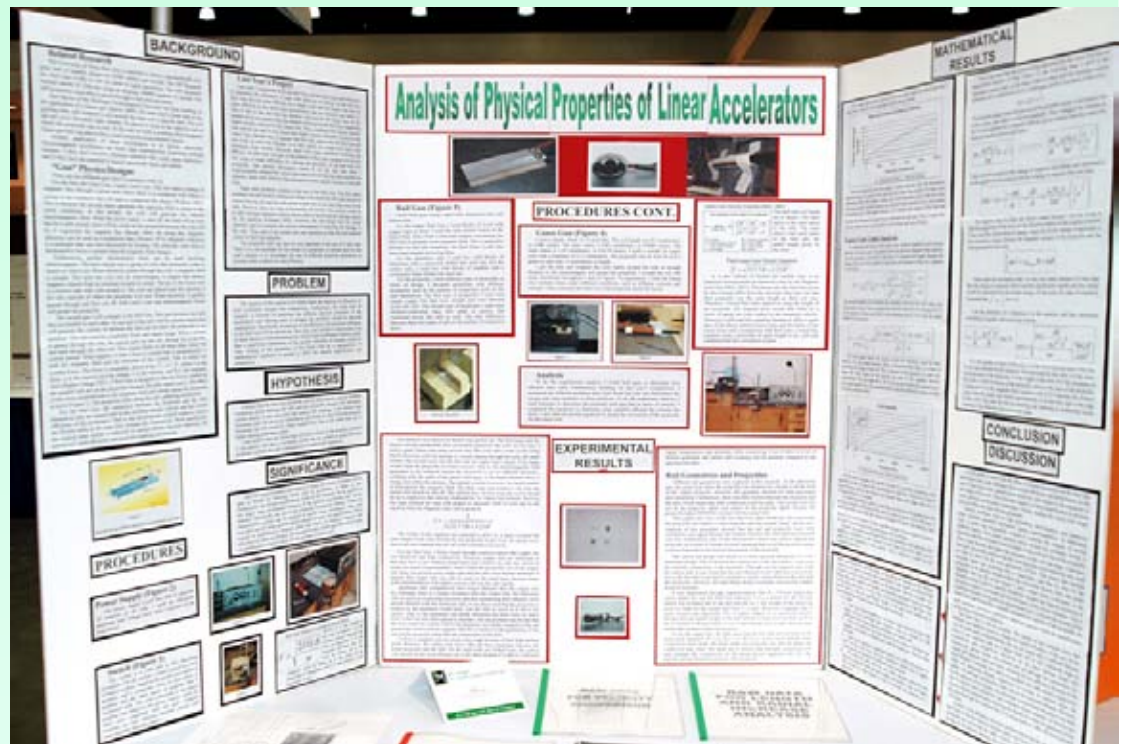
- Be concise



Be Selective

- *Don't put EVERYTHING* from your report on to the display
- The report is there to read...

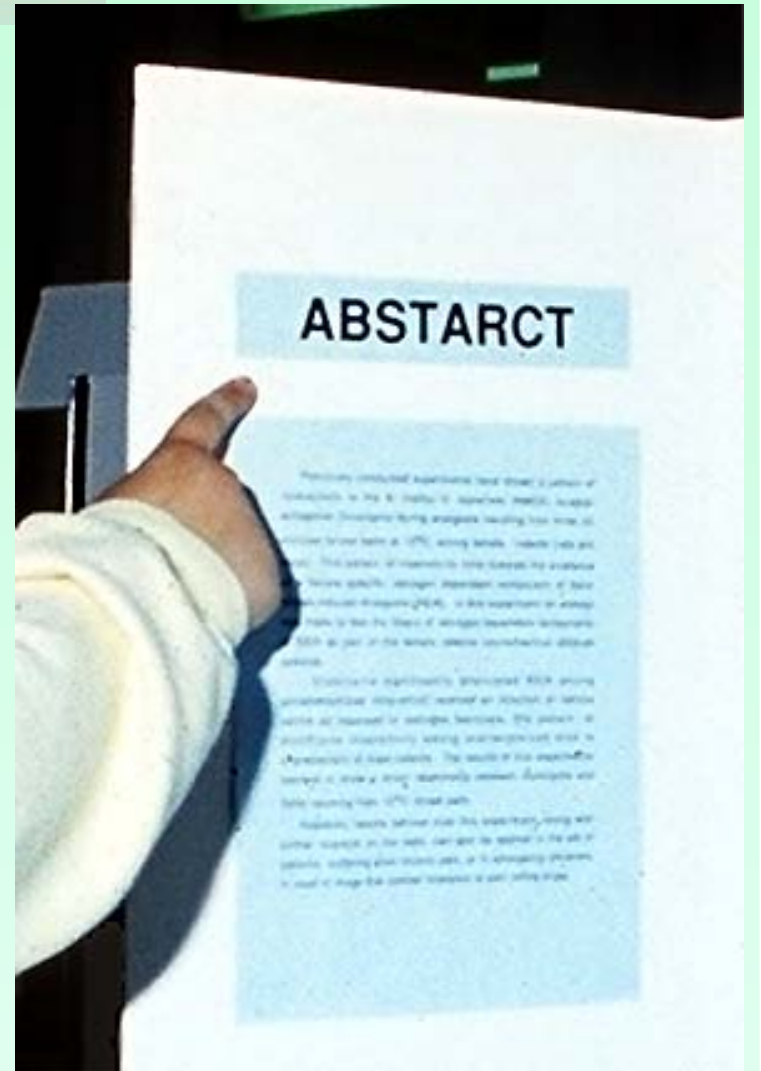
Don't overkill



Titling and Text

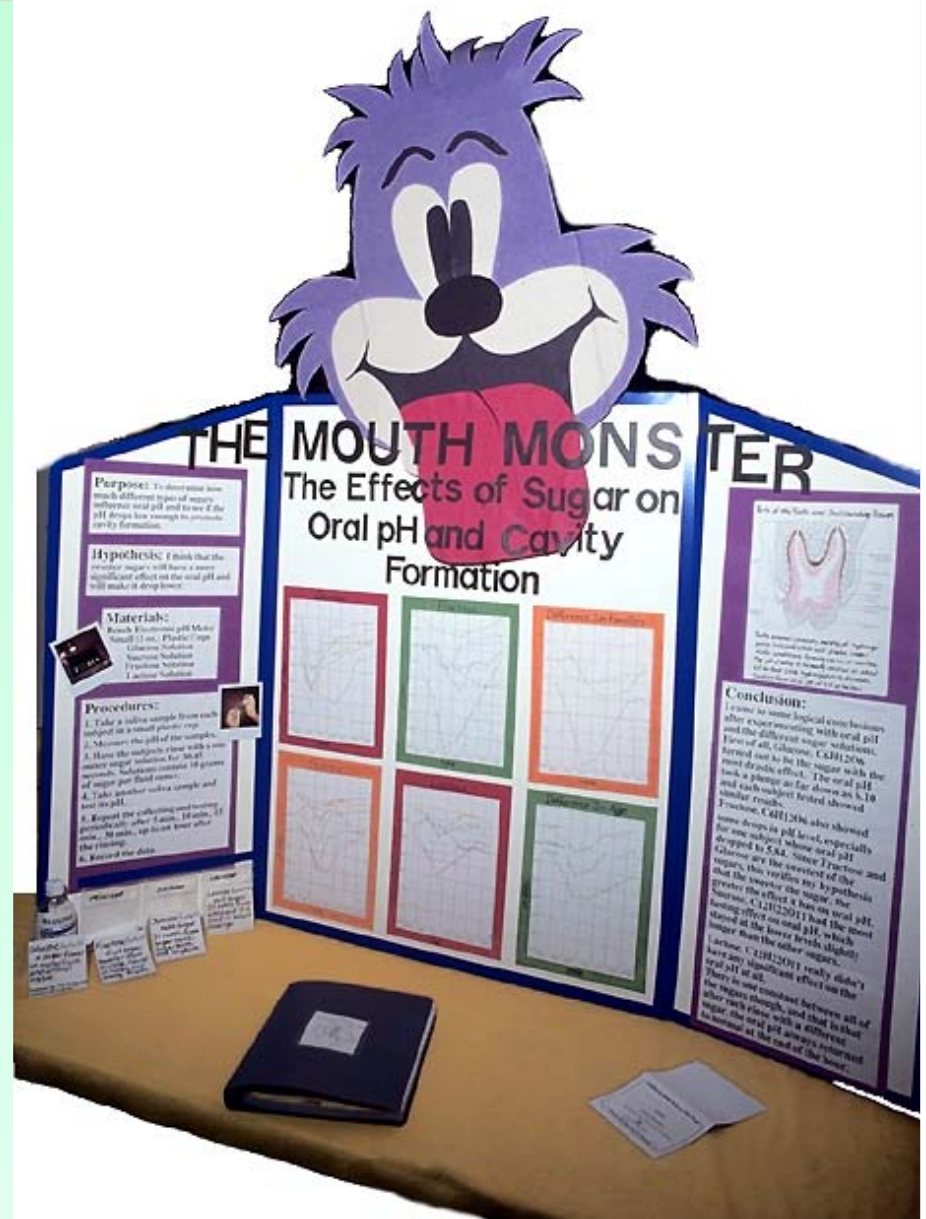
- **TYPED & PROOFREAD!!**

- *Spelling counts...*
- *Neatness counts*



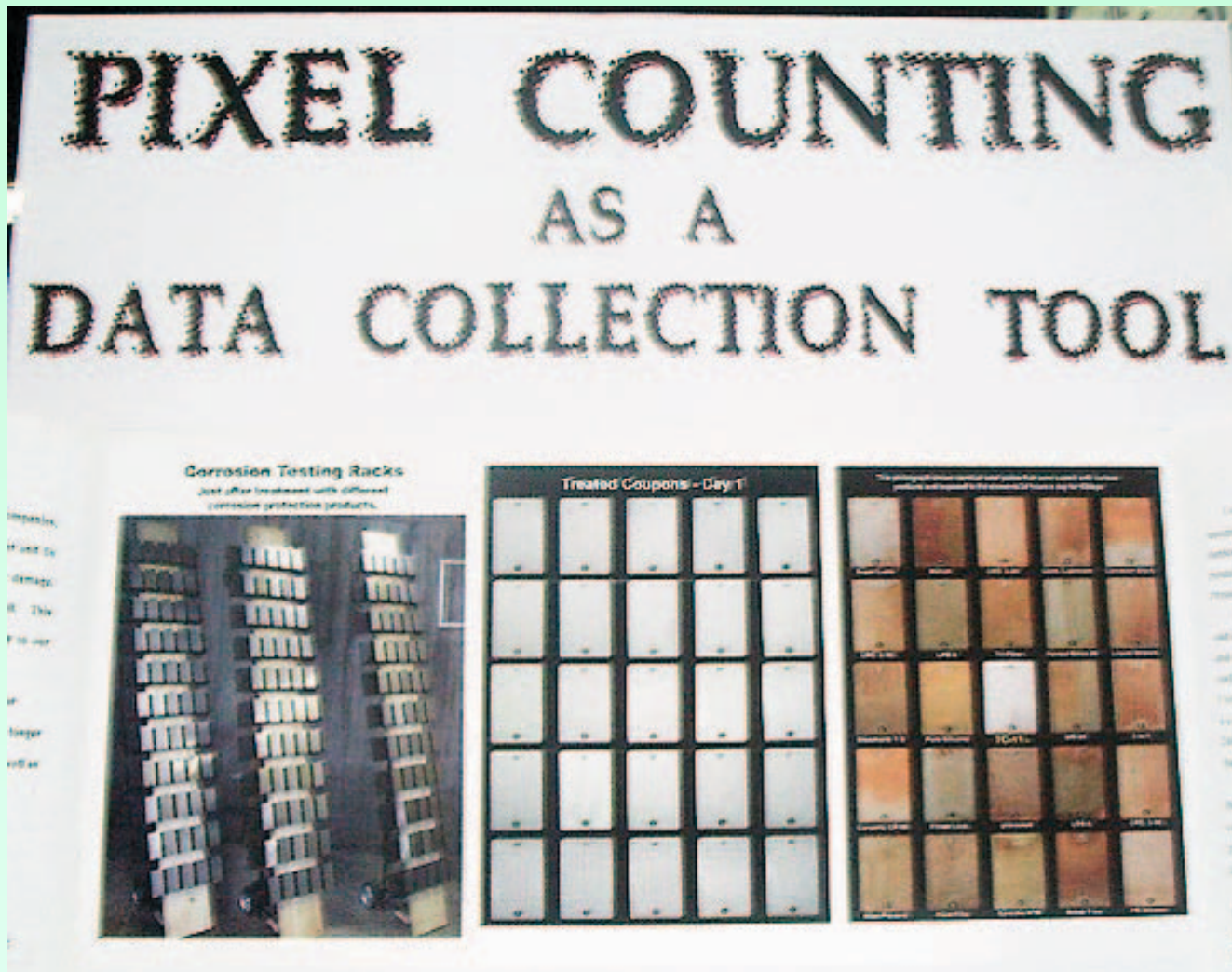
Explanatory Title

- Make sure your title is not confusing
- If necessary, use a **sub-title** for a clear explanation

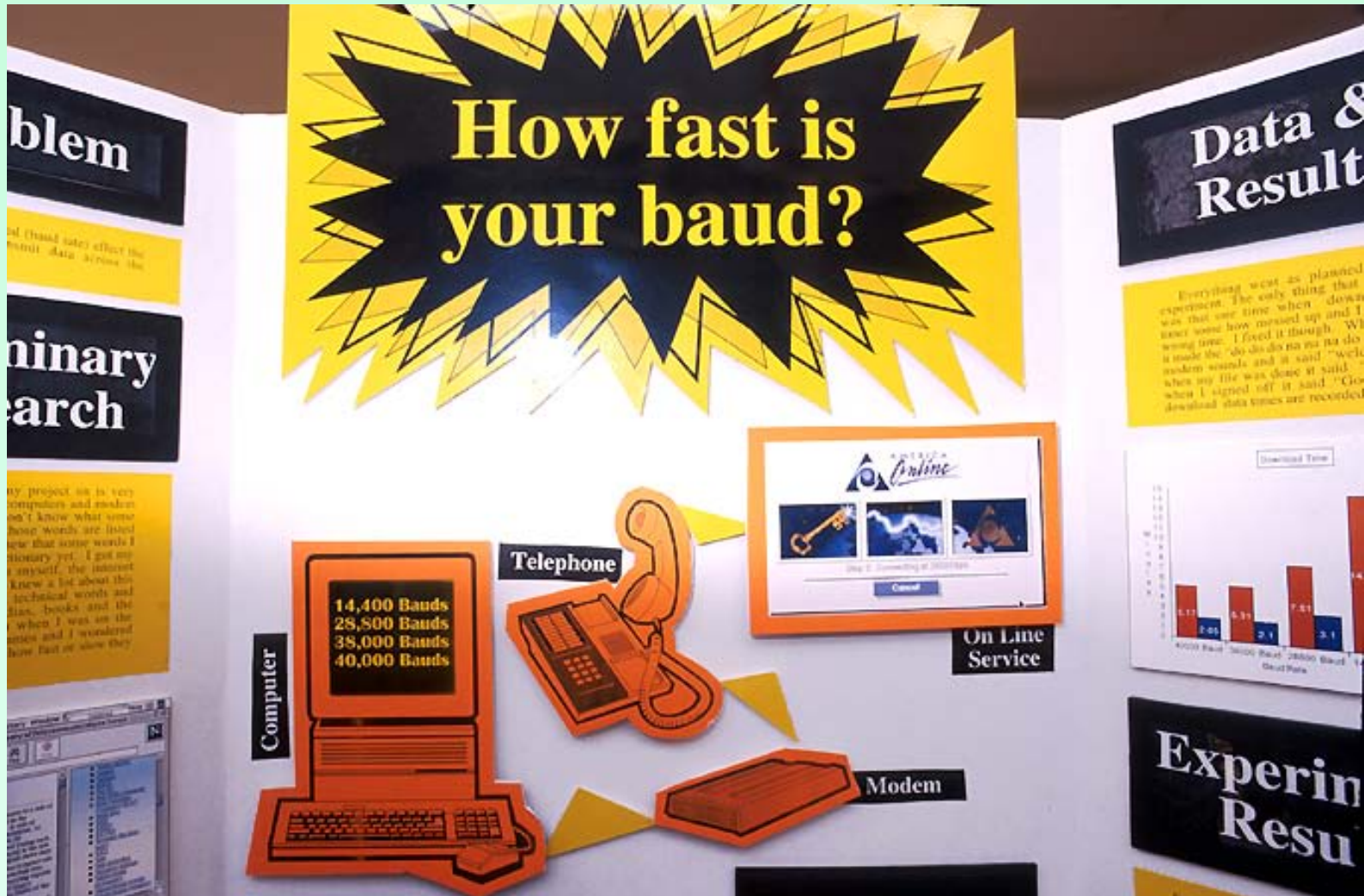


Titling Enhancement

- Use novel way to make titles “pop”



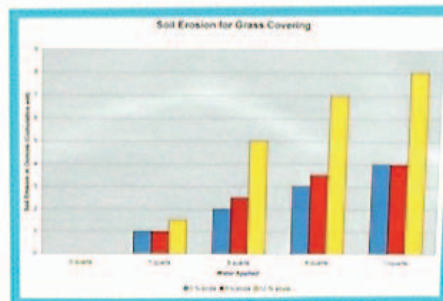
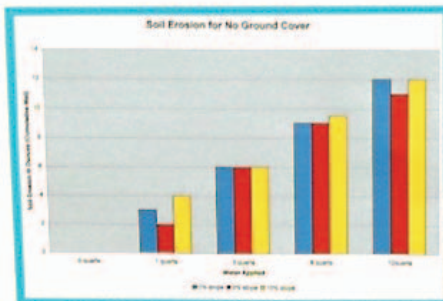
Extra Foam Core Board & Computer Graphics



Graphs and Figures

- Keep Graphs
 - Large
 - Readable
 - Properly labeled
 - Interesting
- Keep data increments comparable

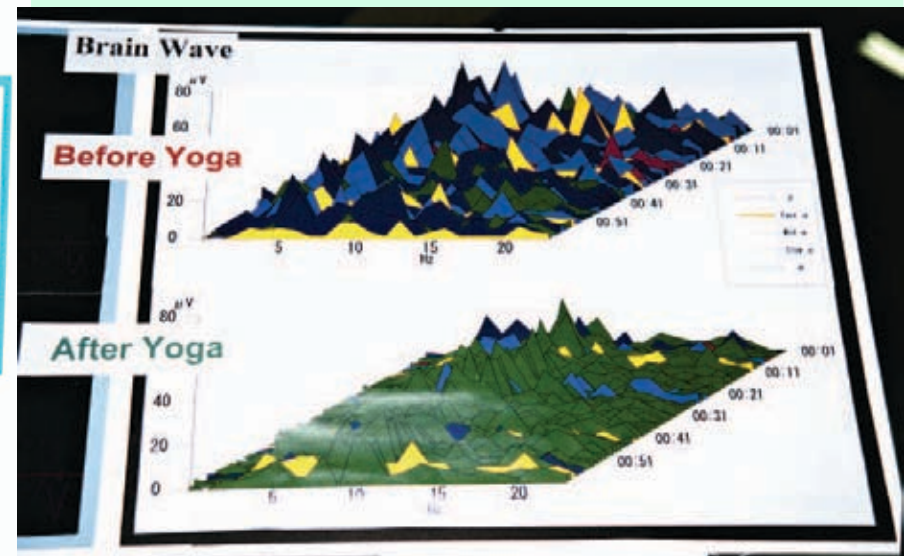
DATA



Wind Speed (m/s)	Soil Erosion (cm)
1	1.5
2	3.0
3	4.5
4	6.0
5	7.5



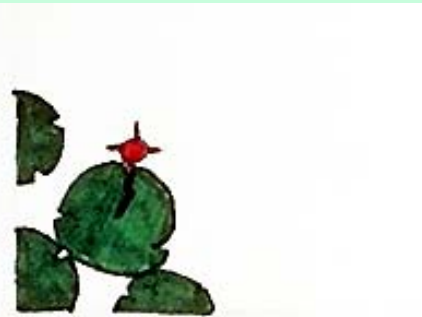
Wind Speed (m/s)	Soil Erosion (cm)
1	0.5
2	1.0
3	1.5
4	2.0
5	2.5



Use Drawings to Explain Difficult Concepts



How viruses attack



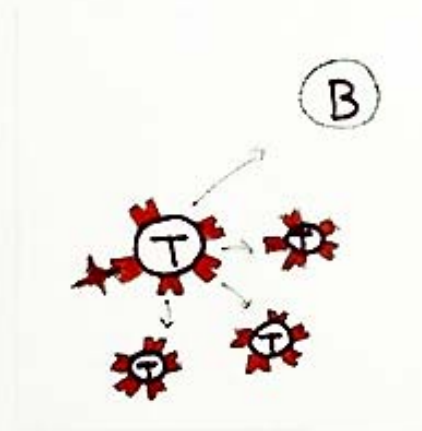
Virus enters through receptor



Cell begins manufacturing new viruses



How the body fights back



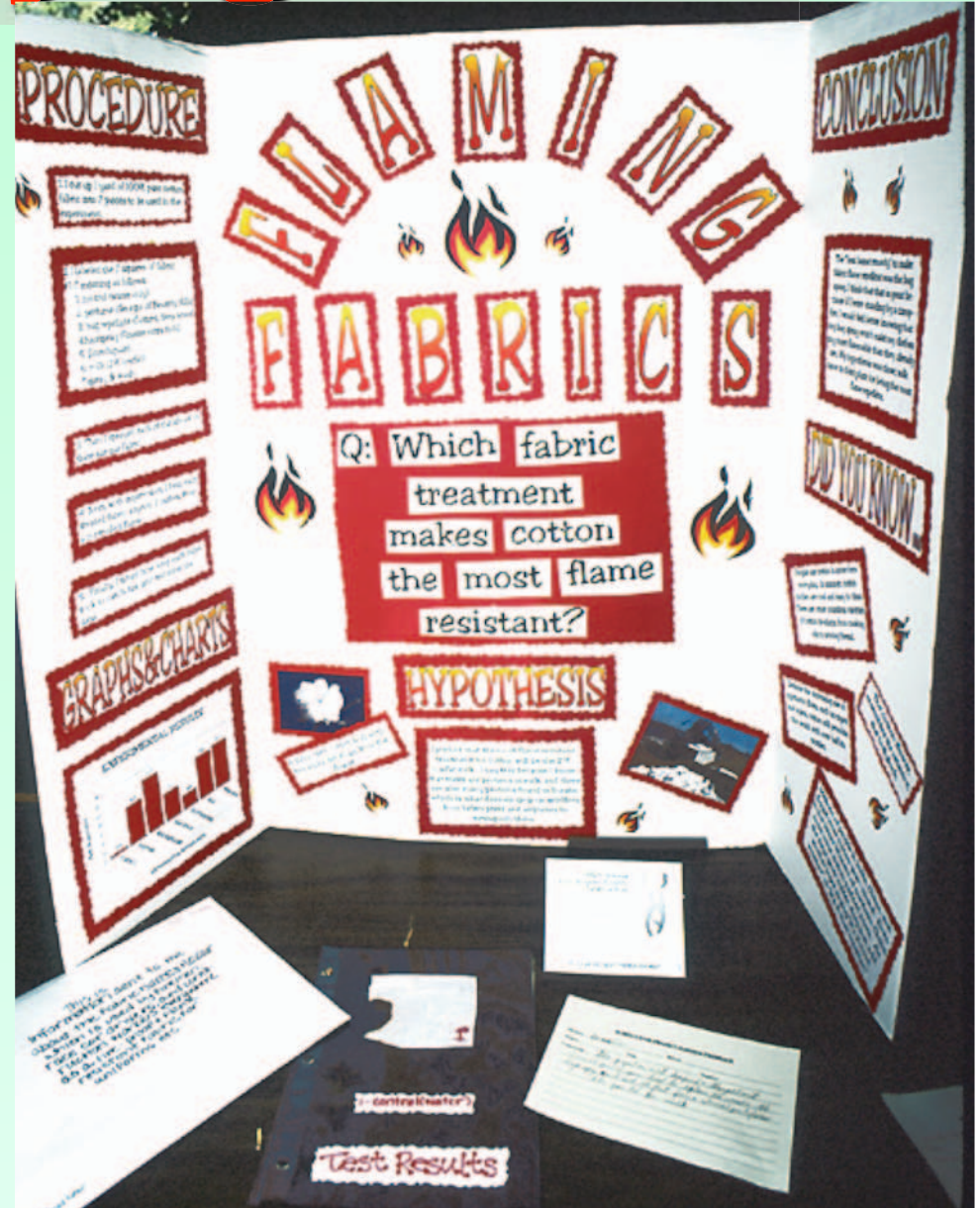
T cells are produced
B cells are activated



B cells produce antibodies

Pick a Unifying Theme

- Fonts, background and/or graphics that go with the **theme** of your project



Picking a Font

- Don't use *extra fancy* fonts
- You want judges to be able to read & focus on your *information*

Project Title

Project

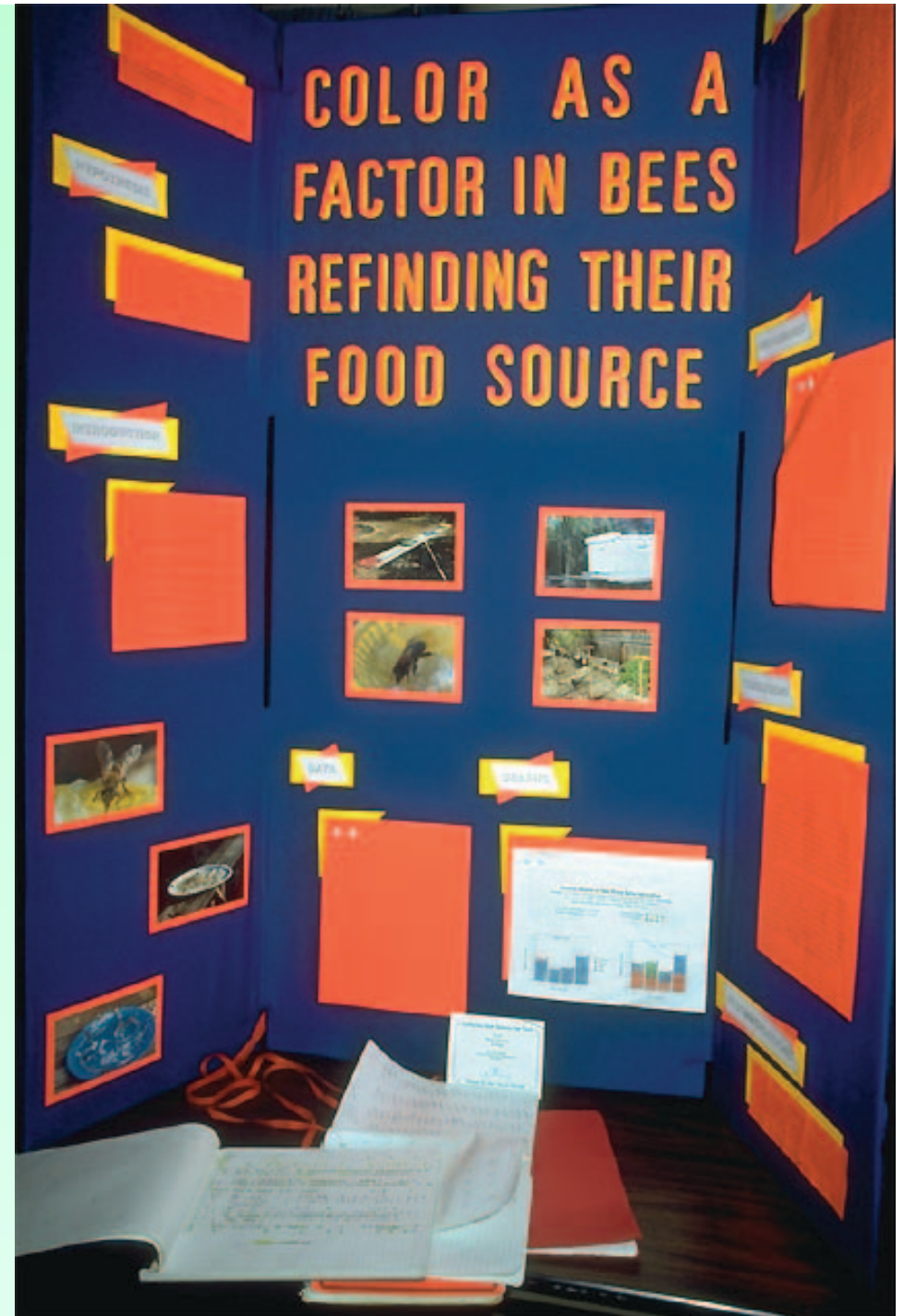
Project Title

Project Title

PROJECT TITLE

Color

- Color use tied to the project
- Recommended:
 - No more than **3 colors**
 - *Dominant*
 - *Accent*
 - *Background*



Use of Color

- Can tie a display together
- Act as a unifying theme



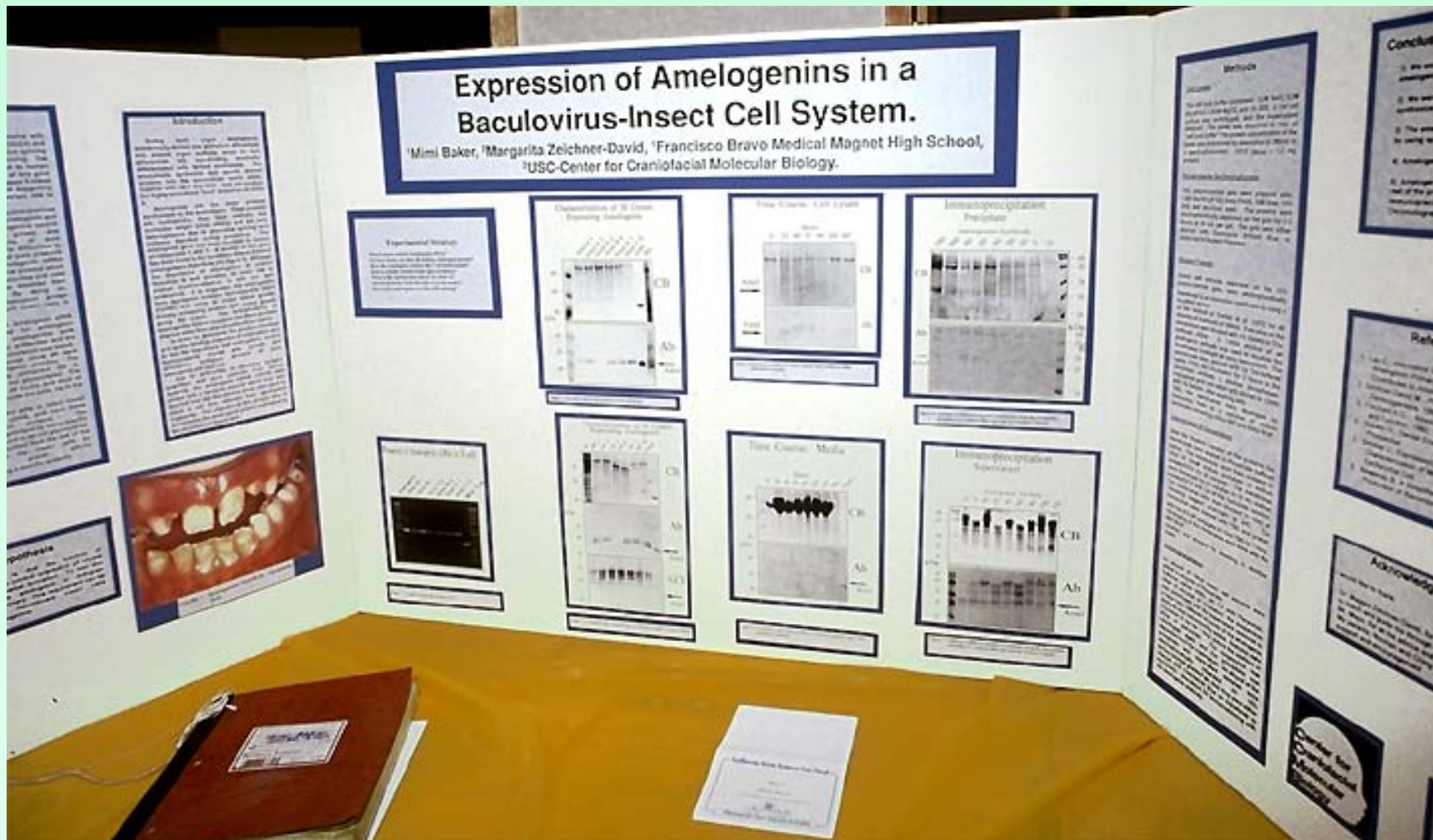
Too *MUCH* Color!

- Your eye doesn't know where to land
- No focal point
- Disturbing



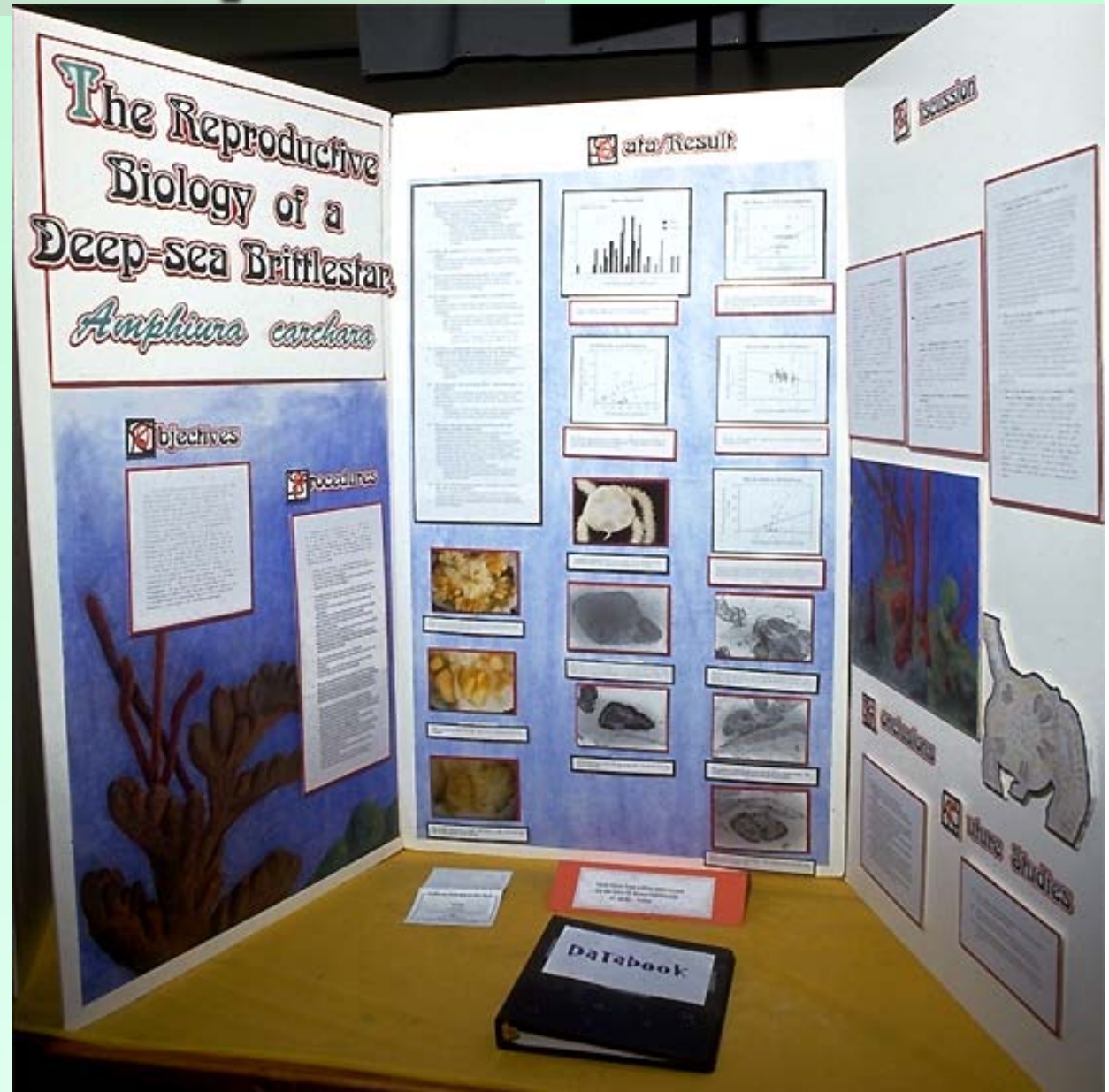
Graphics

- Liven up a presentation



Graphics

- Make the display board represent a study site



Photos

- Can visually demonstrate procedures

PROCEDURES :



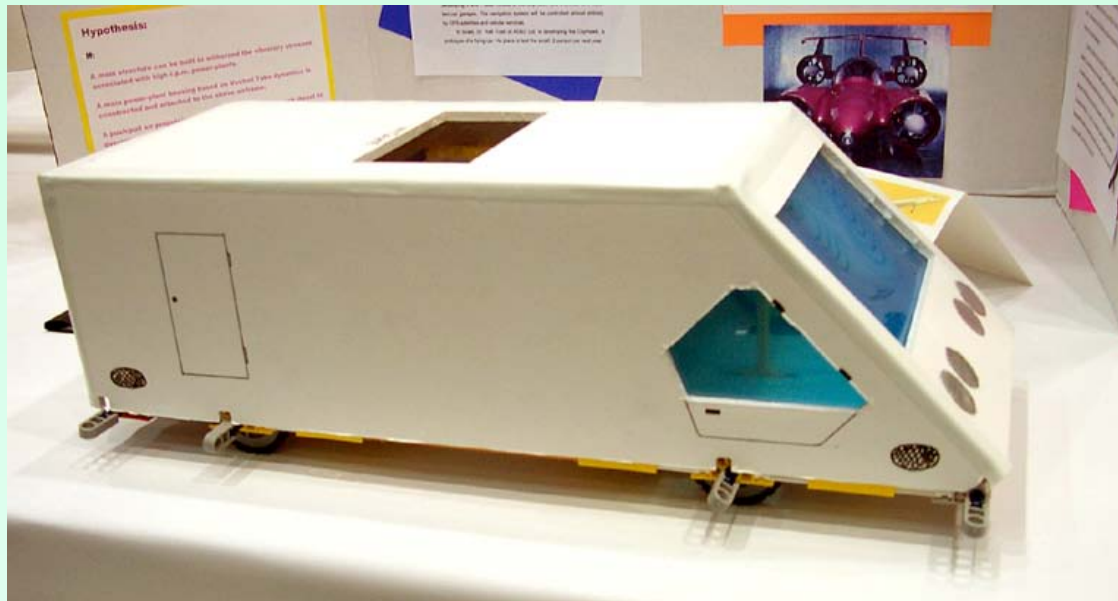
Displays

- 3-D Displays are encouraged
- *If you can, display the **actual equipment** you used to test your hypothesis.*



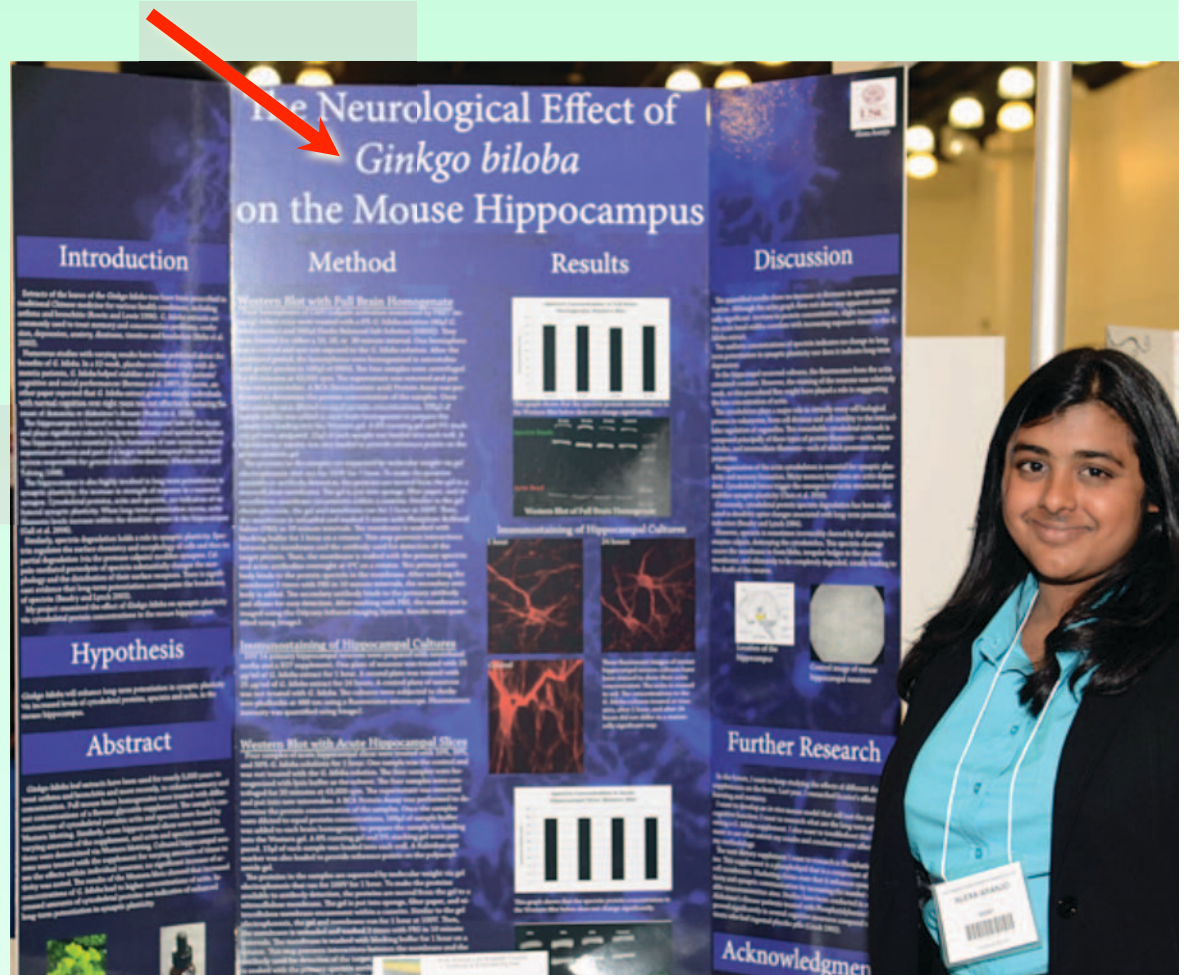
Displays

- Should be **student-designed**
- Directly tied to the project
- **Follow rules** on what may be displayed



Scientific Naming

- When living organisms are the subject of the study, their **SCIENTIFIC NAME** should be displayed on the board at least once (within text); *italicized* or underlined



NO Live Organisms

- As of 2002, **NO living organisms** (including plants) can be displayed: *use a substitute*



DON'TS

- Don't include **living or dead bacteria, viruses or fungi** in your display
 - *Use photos or models instead*



Display “DON'TS”

- **NO LASERS...period**
- **NO un-insulated electrical devices *above 12 Volts***
- **NO LIQUIDS (as part of the display)**
- **NO FOOD (as part of the display)**



NO Hazardous Materials

- **No toxic** materials
- **No drugs** (of any kind)
- **No radioactive** materials
- **No caustic** materials (acids, bases)



DON'TS

- Don't include **highly expensive pieces** *unless you are willing to remove them immediately after the interview*



Mechanical Devices

- **Bolt down** any devices that could injure someone if it fell or was mishandled.



Be Aware...!

- We cannot be responsible for small, easily stolen items you leave at your own risk
- We cannot be responsible for easily broken items you leave at your own risk.
- ***Photos/drawings are excellent options!!***



Remember...

- No matter how fancy & eye-catching the display...
- *It can't take the place of solid, well-documented and analyzed research*



Designed & Photographed by

Anne F. Maben

Former AP Science Coach for LACOE

for the

Los Angeles County Science Fair

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