



## Tips for Great Boards

- Sketch and layout your papers before you glue/tape
  - Use the sample sheet as a guide so you don't forget anything
  - Make sure the most important information you want the judges to see is on the upper middle or right side of the board
- Make sure the font is size **36** or larger wherever possible
  - We judges have worse eyes than you!
- Use photos, graphs or sketches on your board
  - It draws a judge's attention to the important parts of your project and makes it more interesting!
- Color should "mean" something and not be distracting
  - Great for Labels
  - Great for showing a data trend
  - Great for contrast against the board background
  - Not great in rainbow everywhere 😊 - hard to read
- Double check to make sure the glue/tape is holding!
- Bring a small object to display on the table in front of your board
  - Inexpensive in case it gets damaged - no iPads please!



## Tips for Great Presentations

- Video yourself and practice beforehand!
- Take a deep breath before you start relax and smile 😊
- Speak loud enough, clearly, concisely and confidently
- Stand 45 degrees to the judges without rocking or fidgeting
  - Glance and point at your board and back at the judges as you speak
  - Staring just at your board or just at the judge is not ideal
  - Draw the judge's attention to important parts of your board
  - Use your hands to point at the board not play with your hair/nose
- 15 seconds: Explain the topic and why you chose it.
  - This helps judges relate to you and form a connection!
- 15 seconds: State the hypothesis and why you think it's correct
  - This lets you bring in some of your background research naturally
- 15 seconds: Summarize the procedure at a high level
  - Do NOT read every step – that's annoying or boring right?!?
- 1 minute: Review the results
  - Focus on the key learnings and not every detail
  - Good: The adults scored 5 points lower, showing their memory is...
  - Poor: Mom scored 2 points lower, Dad scored 4 points lower, etc.
- 1 minute: Review the conclusion, impact and relevance
  - This is the cool stuff, so be excited!!
  - What would you do differently? What surprised you? Etc.
  - Encourage the judges to ask questions, and perhaps ask them one!
- 15 seconds: Closing, Acknowledgements and Thank You
  - Highlight who helped you and why you really appreciated it
  - Thank the judges for volunteering and for any compliments they give