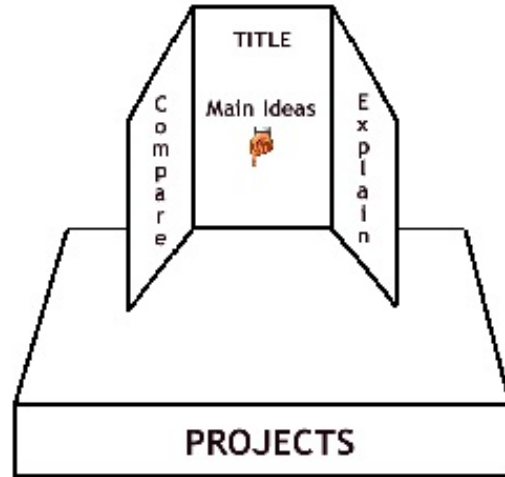


Creating Your Display

PROJECTS

Projects are designed to display visual and written information on a topic in an easy to understand and attractive manner. They are similar to museum displays. People walking by should be attracted to the main idea and, want to stop and learn more about the topic. To be successful a project must create a good balance between visual interest and historical explanation.



The most common form of project entry is a three-panel display, like the above illustration. This style is the least complicated to design and build, but is still a very effective way to present your information. Here are some tips for this style:

- * Be sure your title is the main focus of the center panel.
- * Also use the center panel to present your main ideas.
- * The side panels are best used either to compare issues about your theme or explain related details.
- * Artifacts or other materials may also be placed on the table between the side panels.

Reminders

1. Make sure your display board contains the title of your project.
2. Balance words with illustrations. Make sure your illustrations have captions or a title that explains what they are about.
3. Use a **larger typeface** size for important or main points. Use **smaller type** for less important points. Make sure that words are not typed so small, however, that they are difficult to read.
4. Use colored paper behind blocks of text or behind illustrations, creating a frame effect.
5. Make sure your display tells:
 - Who** was involved in your topic
 - What** event(s) took place in your topic
 - Where** the event(s) in your topic took place
 - When** the event(s) in your topic took place
 - How** the event(s) in your topic relate to the National History Day theme
 - Why** you think the event(s) in your topic are important
6. Consider including a timeline showing important dates and activities.
7. Consider having a Cause and Effect comparison.
8. Any words that you write yourself and print to put on your display board may total no more than 500 words.

Display Day Requirements (what to bring)

1. Bring your completed Display Board and any artifacts or objects you want to put on the table in front of the board.
2. Bring 3 copies of your Title Page, Process Paper and Annotated Bibliography. The Process Paper must be typed in double spacing using an ordinary font in an ordinary size, with no borders or illustrations. Make sure you have no more than 500 words! Staple each copy in the upper left corner.

National History Day: A Recipe for Student Success

Step 1

Visit the National History Day Web site at www.nationalhistoryday.org. Read about this year's theme, and select a topic.

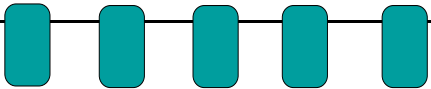
Tip

Find a way to make your display interactive, such as having doors, windows or lift-up cards with questions on top, and answers beneath when you lift up the card.

Step 2

Make sure your research is balanced by using a variety of resources. Include both **primary** and **secondary** resources.

Tip: Hang "fact cards" on your board.



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- 1 part Choosing a National History Day topic
- 1 part Locating primary & secondary resources
- 1 part Designing an effective exhibit
- 1 part Writing the Process Paper
- 1 part Exhibiting the project

Brainstorm ideas for your topic, then narrow down your choices to a single topic. Locate information about your topic. Design an exhibit that shows what you have learned. Write a report about your project and list your resources. Show it off!

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Step 3

Design an attractive display that includes a two- or three-color theme. Use scrapbooking magazines to get ideas about how to place items on your display board. Consider making it interactive. Choose display items that you will bring.

Tip

"Frame" your illustrations by backing them with something in color.

Step 4

Write a report about your project. This report includes a **Title Page**, **Process Paper** and **Annotated Bibliography**. Your Process Paper may be no more than 500 words, and must be typed. Make sure you double-space it! Have an adult check your spelling, punctuation and grammar. If you can't type very well, write the report in your own words first, then ask an adult for help with the typing.

Tip: Make sure your print is not too small to read. Include pictures to spice things up!

Step 5

One week before the Youth Division Event, make sure you have everything you need. You need 3 copies of your report, the display board, display items, and possibly electronic equipment (including electrical cords or batteries) if your display has audiovisual components,

Tip

Your board should include a timeline of events that shows not only some important facts about your topic, but what else was happening in the world at the same time. This is known as "historical context."