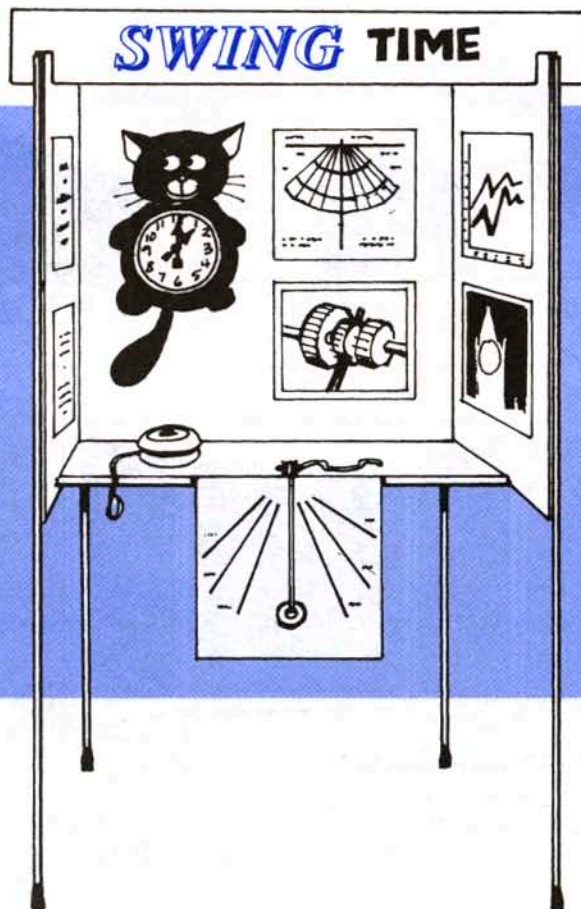
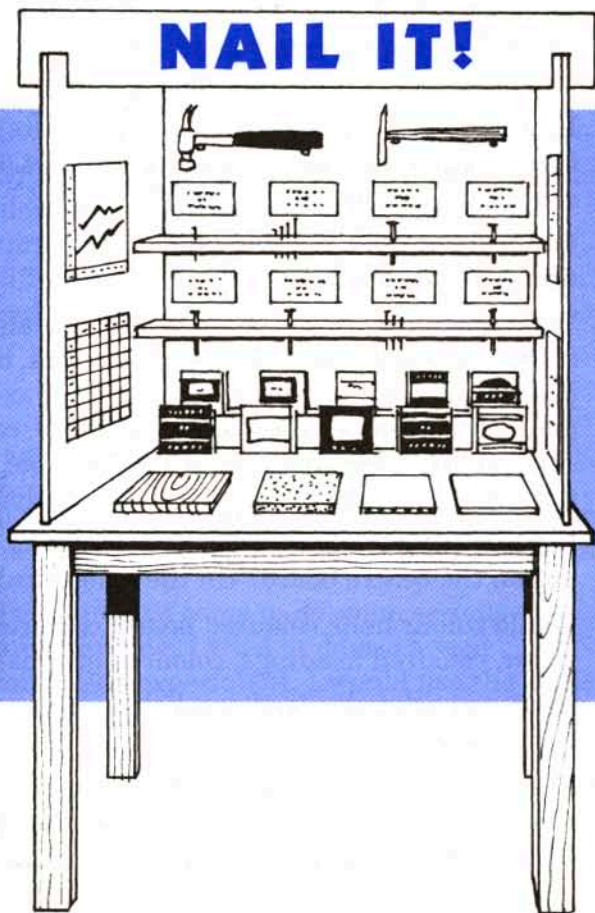


10

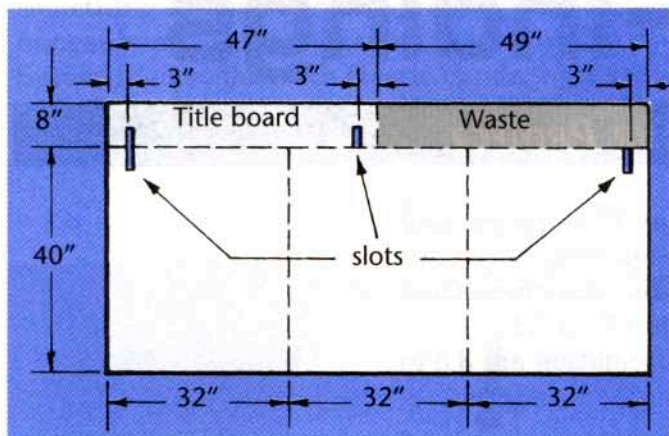
Sharing Your Findings

**DISPLAYING YOUR PROJECT*

At the science fair, you are given a table for your display. Most people find three display boards fit nicely onto the table and leave space in the centre for apparatus, materials, specimens, written reports, etc. Sometimes they choose not to use the table and stand their display on the floor. The maximum dimensions allowed by the Youth Science Foundation are 3.5 m high (from floor), 1.2 m wide, 0.8 m deep.

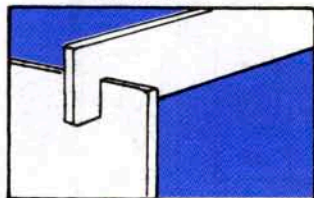


You can make your display boards from a choice of materials. Foam plastic (1 inch) is cheap and easy to work with but is rather fragile. Wafer board (3/8 inch) is stronger and fairly cheap, but you might need some help. Here is a simple pattern which you might use when cutting your boards (8×4 feet is standard building size). You can vary it to suit your project.

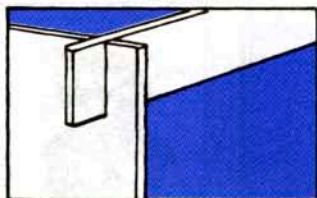


Slot dimensions:

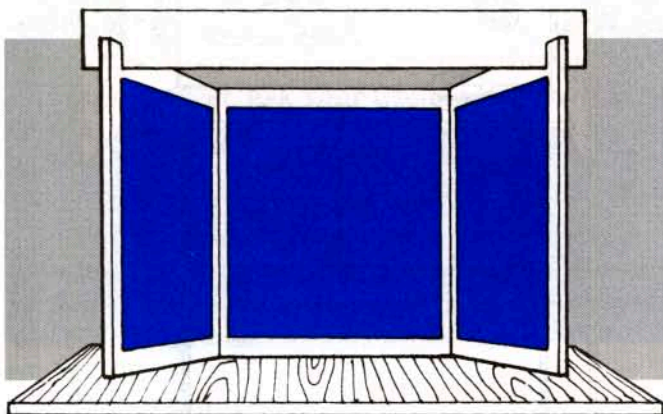
$1.25T \times 2''$



$1.25T \times 4''$



T = thickness of material used



Three sheets of bristol board fit easily onto these display boards and provide a colourful backing.

Designing Your Display

There is no recipe for a great display. Every project is different. It's a real challenge to find an attractive, clear and concise way of telling the story of your project, of explaining to a viewer why you did it, how you did it and what you found out. Have a look at some of the pictures of the displays in this book (see pages 9, 11, 116, 118). Which catch your eye? Can you say why you like them?

Before you start work on your display, sketch out your design on paper or blank newsprint. You might find it useful to think about some of the questions below as you do this.

1. Can you think of an informative snappy title?
2. How can you attract your viewers' attention? How simply can you explain why you did the project?
3. What's the best way of telling your viewers about the experiments you did? Would a diagram, photograph, or a model be useful?
4. How are you going to present your results? Can you use charts or graphs? What sort of chart or graph would look best?
5. Exactly what did you find out? Can you express this clearly?
6. What headings are you going to use? Are any of these suggestions useful: purpose, aims, hypothesis, procedure, apparatus, design of experiments, results, observations, findings, conclusions? How big should your headings be? Can you find a way of printing them neatly?
7. Layout — what information are you going to put on the centre board? On the side boards?
8. Would colour help: coloured board, coloured paper, coloured headings, coloured graphs?
9. Have you acknowledged any help you have been given?
10. And last but not least — SAFETY. Could visitors hurt themselves if they touched your display? Consult your teacher!