

EXHIBIT PROJECTS

Five Elements of a Quality Display Project

EXCELLENT RESEARCH

For a top quality project the student must consult and use a wide variety of research materials (books, magazines, newspapers, interviews, correspondence, etc.). Most important are **primary sources**. The bibliography should have at least 20 sources and have a balance between primary and secondary sources.

ANALYSIS OF TOPIC

In a top quality project the student's analysis of the topic should be evident. The project should be more than just a re-telling of history; *it should show cause and effect, change, and/or the impact of the topic in history*. It is important for the student to *place the selected topic in its historical perspective*.

VARIETY OF DISPLAY MATERIALS

The student needs to use a wide variety of methods to visualize the topic. These might include photographs, maps, charts, diagrams, time-lines, models, and artifacts from the time period. Be careful not to put too much on the display.

CONCISE LABELING

Writing labels can be one of the most difficult things on a display. The student needs to make the depth of the research obvious, and yet stay within the *500-word limit* (limit is on student's own words, not a newspaper article, etc.).

ORIGINALITY AND CREATIVITY

The student needs to use imagination and creativity to prepare a display. This does not necessarily mean one must be artistic. *Create a mood* through the use of color, texture, and materials (i.e., barbed wire with a ranching theme).