

### Poster tips

- Show rather than tell (pictures, graphs, diagrams)
- Consider your audience (how do you explain to them)
- Assume your audience knows less than you (don't skip steps)
- Make it flow (arrange your poster in a logical reading order)
- Think big, with larger, fewer words (reading a poster is not like reading a book)
- IF you have time at the end, then you can get fancy (content comes FIRST)
- You can have any background you like, though I recommend lighter rather than darker (which uses a LOT of ink and might not print well)
- Does it look good on the screen when set to 100% size? Is anything pixelated?
- When the whole poster is fit on the screen, can you still read it? Text shouldn't be too small.

### A good poster

1. Title (reading it should tell the audience what it's all about)
2. Hypothesis/prediction (what you think about nature, and how to test it)
3. How/what you measured
4. Results (your measurements)
5. Analysis (what does your data mean, if anything?)
6. What to do next (proposal)
7. Tell who you are and who sponsored your research (must have "**This work was supported in part by the National Science Foundation under Grant No. PHY-1430152 (JINA Center for the Evolution of the Elements).**")

### Poster resources

- Poster template (on PAN wiki)
- Picture repository (on PAN wiki)
- You might look at past posters for inspiration (also – you guessed it – on PAN wiki)

### Good Graphs

- Labeled axes, with units!
- Since the y-axis should be the dependent (and thus interesting) variable, make it the longer one to make the changing variable clearer.
- Be very careful with not starting your axis scale at zero.
- Have a title that explains what you're looking at!
- Choose your axis scale carefully to incorporate your lowest and highest data. Should it be linear or logarithmic?
- Error bars are your friend.

**Teachers take note:** you can design your poster with whatever information you think would be useful to post in your classroom, not just about your experiments!