

## Notes to the Future

### "The String-Machine"

By Lara and Brendon

First of all, The String machine is a very interesting and fun experiment to conduct, build, and view. When buying the supplies be sure to go to the recommended stores, (Radio Shack, and Home Depot). We did not have to go to any random stores to find miscellaneous pieces except for the string. We had to go to a fabric store for lighter braided string. Follow all directions carefully. Directions are simple and easy to follow. This project is not a "hard" project when the correct procedures are performed.

The first problem my partner and I encountered was the fact that the batteries would not pass current through the nails. As seen in other "notes for the future," write ups, this is a common problem. All we did to fix this problem was to make sure that the front nail on the right battery was aligned with the positive terminal and not just a tangent to the circular post. Also, if the string gets too twisted, the string machine might have a problem making the correct waves.

Next, you may realize that your string can be a little too thick and heavy for the motors to turn it smoothly. Therefore, remember to buy a thin, light and braided string because if the string is simply twisted it will unravel while it is spinning. Also, when trying this machine make sure to keep your fingers still, otherwise it won't work.

The date of your exhibition be certain to bring enough extra supplies, due to the fact that something may break, fall apart or simply stop working. Once you have completed your "string-Machine" project make sure it is properly functioning and give it enough trial runs to guarantee success! Lastly, little kids are shy and may need a little encouragement walking up to your table, but with an outgoing attitude, you will find yourselves stealing other exhibitor's kids very easily. Good luck!