EXAMPLE OUTDOOR CLASSROOM PROJECT PLAN: Large Information Kiosk

A large Information Kiosk can be used in many ways including:

♦ Welcome Center – at the entrance to your outdoor classroom site with an Outdoor Classroom Site Map and/or other information you want to share with students, teachers and visitors such as “What’s Growing on in the OC…”

♦ Learning Station Signs – next to each of your learning stations as a way to communicate educational information and its purpose to those who use the outdoor classroom.

♦ Classwork Display – where students can display their art work, photographs, poems or research on specific topics related to the learning stations throughout the year.

The following kiosk plan is free standing and designed to provide a display area that is approximately 27” x 33” (inside measurements). It is fairly easy to construct if you have basic construction skills. The following information will help you with the construction.

FAQ Location Requirements:

♦ Place in close proximity to the entrance of the outdoor classroom or by a specific learning station.

♦ The legs needed to be set in the ground at a minimum depth of 2-3 feet for stability.

FAQ Photos of a Completed Kiosk (similar design):

FAQ Estimated Cost: $205

FAQ Tools Needed for Construction:

♦ Hammer
♦ Electric drill with Phillips head or star-bit
♦ Circular saw

♦ Level
♦ Tape Measure
♦ Post-hole digger
### Supplies & Materials List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Materials &amp; Supplies</th>
<th>Estimated Cost</th>
<th>Source of Materials</th>
<th>Final Cost/Donation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1) 30”x36” Duraplex Clear Acrylic Sheet</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td>Home Center</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2) 2”x4”x8’ treated lumber for (2) 8’ posts</td>
<td>$10 total</td>
<td>Home Center</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(1) 2”x4”x8’ treated lumber for (2) 30” cross pieces</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td>Home Center</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(4) 2”x2”x6’ treated lumber or furring strips for frames</td>
<td>$80 total</td>
<td>Home Center</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(1) 3/4” x 4’ x 8’ Sheet of Treated plywood</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td>Home Center</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(20) 3.5” Exterior decking screws OR (1) 1 lb box with ~50 screws</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>Home Center</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(40) 3” Exterior decking screws OR (1) 1 lb box with ~70 screws</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>Home Center</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2) 4”-4.5” T-shaped Door Hinges <em>(may come with screws)</em></td>
<td>$10 total</td>
<td>Home Center</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(1) 3.5” Safety Hasp <em>(to lock the kiosk)</em></td>
<td>$5</td>
<td>Home Center</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2) 50 lb Bags of Quikrete</td>
<td>$10 total</td>
<td>Home Center</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(1) 2”x4”x8’ treated lumber <em>(cut in half to create (2) pieces to use as braces until quikrete dries)</em></td>
<td>$5</td>
<td>Home Center</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL COST:** $205

### General Construction & Installation Instructions

**Step 1:** Using the (2) 2”x4”x8’ treated lumber for posts, cut one end of each board so that it is slanted. The correct size of the slant can be accomplished by measuring 1.5” on one edge while using the end of the board on the other edge. *(See the diagram and photo below.)* This will allow you to attach the roof on top of the kiosk once it is constructed.

![Diagram showing slanted end of 2”x4” lumber](image)

**Step 2:** Cut the 2”x4”x6’ treated board into (2) 30” length boards to create (2) cross pieces that will be used to build the casing or opening for the kiosk.

**Step 3:** Create a casing for the kiosk using the two 8 ft long posts from **Step 1** and the two 30” pieces from **Step 2**. Attach the first 2”x4”x30” to the top portion of the two 2”x4”x8’s within 2” of the bottom of the slant on the 2”x4”x8’ by screwing (2) of the 3.5” wood screws through each post into the ends of the 2”x4”x30” piece placed horizontally between the posts. *(See the photo and diagram below.)*
Measure along the inside of the posts down 36” from the top cross piece, and mark both posts. Attach the second 2”x4”x30” under the 36” mark using (4) more 3.5” wood screws to create a 30” x 36” opening for the display area. Be sure that your **slanted ends** of the posts are at the top of the kiosk so that you can attach the roof later.

**Step 4:** Cut one of the 2”x2”x6’ pieces into (2) 36” pieces in length and cut another 2”x2”x6’ piece into (2) 27” pieces in length. Screw the (2) 36” trim into the inside of the 8’ posts (using 3” screws) so that the 2” strips are flush with the front of the posts. Screw the (2) 27” trim into the inside the cross pieces (using 3” screws) so that the 2” strips are flush with the front of the cross pieces. These should create a “frame” for the acrylic sheet much like a picture frame. *(See photo and diagram below.)*

**Step 5:** Lay the kiosk face-down on the ground with the 2” frame closest to the ground. Gently place the acrylic sheet inside the opening against the 2” frame.

**Step 6:** Repeat **Step 4** by cutting the remaining 2”x2”x6’ pieces into (2) 36” long and (2) 27” long. Gently place the 2”x2” strips on top of the acrylic sheet and screw in the 2” strips into the posts and cross pieces like you did in **Step 4** so that the back of the acrylic sheet has a “picture frame” holding it in place.

**Step 7:** Cut the sheet of 3/4” treated plywood so that it measures 30” x 36”. Insert it into the back of the kiosk frame, letting it rest on the second 2” picture frame created in **Step 6**.
Step 8: Once it is in place, attach the T-hinges and the Safety Hasp. The two T-hinges should be attached 7” from the top of the plywood and 7” from the bottom edge of the plywood, so that you can open the back of the kiosk. The hasp should be located on the opposite edge from the T-hinges (at 17.25” or make it centered along that edge) to lock the kiosk.

Step 9: Cut a 10”x36” piece of plywood from remaining piece of plywood and fasten it to the top of the kiosk using the 3.5” screws. *(The roof will slant towards the front of the kiosk.)* Cover this roof with shingles or some other roofing material.

Step 10: Take the kiosk to the outdoor classroom and dig two holes that are wide enough for the kiosk legs (about 6” in diameter) and deep enough (between 2-3 feet deep) depending on how high you want your kiosk to stand.

Step 11: Stand the kiosk up in the holes and use your level to make sure that it is straight. Nail one of the 2”x4”x4’ to each of the legs at a 45 degree angle to help hold the kiosk in position. Use one bag of Quikrete per hole to hold your kiosk in place. Be sure to mound the Quikrete around the bottom of the legs of the kiosk (above the grass) to prevent water collecting around the legs and causing rot.

Step 12: Paint the kiosk with exterior wood sealant or paint to help it last longer. If needed, you can add cork board to the inside of the kiosk. To add signs or educational material, open the back and make the necessary changes. Once you are finished, fasten the safety hasp on the back of the kiosk.