Science Fair Vocabulary

1. <u>conclusion</u> – your opinion about what happened during the experiment; inferences belong in the conclusion; the last step of the scientific method

2. <u>controls</u> – things that remain the SAME during the experiment

3. <u>data</u> – observations and measurements taken from your experiment – they should be listed in the form of a chart or graph so you can clearly see the results from the data

4. <u>dependent variable</u> – also called the responding variable – the change that happens in your experiment because of or as the result of the independent variable being changed

5. <u>display</u> – backboard, often three-paneled, on which is attached the title of the experiment, parts of the written report, graphs and charts, pictures, etc to tell the story of your entire experiment

6. <u>hypothesis</u> – an EDUCATED, testable response to the question you have posted as your problem – this is used to guide your entire experiment

7. <u>independent variable</u> – also called the manipulated variable – the ONE THING you change in your experiment to see what affect it has

8. <u>logbook</u> – a notebook (usually a three-ring binder) that you can use to organize your experiment – in contains everything from your experiment; daily notes, doodles, brainstorming, questions, problems, procedures, EVERYTHING

9. <u>materials</u> – a list of ALL the supplies you use for your experiment

10. <u>observations</u> – things you see and witness during your experiment

11. <u>procedure</u> – a list of the steps you go through to perform your experiment from start to finish – very specifically laid out so someone can redo your experiment

12. <u>question</u> – what you want to know about your topic that forms the basis for your hypothesis

13. <u>research</u> – any information you gather from different sources (books, the Internet, magazine, articles, interviews of specialists, etc) which helps you know more about your science project topic

14. <u>results</u> – a simple, factual summary of what happened in the experiment