Science Fair Vocabulary

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

2. **controls** – things that remain the SAME during the experiment

3. **data** – 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. **dependent variable** – 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. **display** – 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. **hypothesis** – an EDUCATED, testable response to the question you have posted as your problem – this is used to guide your entire experiment

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

8. **logbook** – 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. **materials** – a list of ALL the supplies you use for your experiment

10. **observations** – things you see and witness during your experiment

11. **procedure** – 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. **question** – what you want to know about your topic that forms the basis for your hypothesis

13. **research** – 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. **results** – a simple, factual summary of what happened in the experiment