**Scientific Inquiry/Method Vocabulary:**

1. Scientific Inquiry: refers to the diverse ways in which scientists study the natural world and propose explanations based on the evidence they gather.
2. Hypothesis: is a possible explanation for a set of observations or an answer to a scientific question. If… then… statement and must be testable.
3. Variable: factors that can change during an experiment
4. Controlled Experiment: is an experiment in which only one variable is manipulated or changed at a time.
5. Independent Variable: (manipulated) is the variable that you purposely change to test a hypothesis.
6. Dependent Variable: (responding) is the variable that may change in response to the independent variable.
7. Conclusion: is a summary of what you have learned from an experiment. It answers the question: does the data support or disprove my hypothesis and why.
8. Communicating: is sharing ideas and experimental findings with others through writing or speaking. Scientists describe their research and their procedures in full.
9. Scientific Law: is a statement that describes what scientists expect to happen every time under a particular set of conditions. Unlike a theory, it describes an observed pattern in nature without attempting to explain it. Ex. Newton’s Law of Physics and the Law of Gravity.
10. Scientific Theory: is a well-tested explanation for a wide range of observations or experimental results and must have a large body of research to accept it. Ex. Theory of evolution
11. Scientific Literacy: Means that you understand basic scientific terms and principles well enough that you can evaluate information, make personal decisions, and take part in public affairs. By having this, you will be able to identify good sources of scientific information, evaluate them for accuracy, and apply the knowledge to questions or problems in your life.

**Scientific Inquiry/Method Vocabulary:**

- Must include bold sentence statement WITH the definition.

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