**Nature of Science Terms**

**Fact** – A close agreement by competent observers of a series of observations of the same phenomena.

**Hypothesis** – An educated guess based on observed bias and experience.

**Law/Principle** – A general hypothesis or statement about the relationship of natural quantities that has been repeatedly tested without contradiction.

**Quantitative** - Numeric or quantifiable observations (data).

**Qualitative** – Linguistic representation of observations.

**Theory** – A synthesis of a large body of information that encompasses well-tested and verified hypotheses about aspect of the natural world.

**Speculation** – A statement that cannot be collaboratively verified or disproved.

**Test** – An exercise or experiment in which a hypothesis is verified or disproved.

**Inference** – a conclusion reached on the basis of evidence and reasoning

**Conclusion** – summary of how your results support or contradict your original hypothesis

**Scientific Method** – An orderly way of gaining, organizing and applying new knowledge.