Science Fair Basics

- The Scientific Method is a way to answer a question by collecting data and observation.
- **Objective**-This is the first step of the scientific method, in which you chose a question. This can often be a topic that interests you.
- **Hypothesis**- A Hypothesis is an educated guess on how the question will be answered. The Hypothesis is based on what you have seen and read before. Always make your hypothesis an "if, then" statement like "If I do this, then I this will happen."
- **Materials and Procedures** -In this step you list the materials that you will need, and the steps that you take when doing experiment. It is like your mom's cook book with ingredients and directions. Plan your experiment out BEFORE you start!
- **Experiment** -Perform the experiment you outlined in your procedures and write down what happened. Modify if needed.
- **Results and Data**-Here you will organize all your data in charts and graphs, making it easy to see what happened in your experiment. Your parents or teacher might be able to help you make a spread sheet or graph on the computer. Make sure to label the axis, include units and use titles.
- **Conclusion**-The Conclusion is a brief summary of the results of your experiment.
- From the day you begin research to the day you end the project, you should be writing in a journal every day your work. You should make entries into a notebook or binder in black pen. Date all entries and write down the time you spent that day.
- An **abstract** is a summary of your project.
- Your **Display Board** shows people how you used each step of the scientific method in your project and has charts and graphs. Try to include pictures too.
- <u>Include a report</u> on your project, including your research and all the information about your project, with your display board.
- **Pictures are very beneficial!!**