

## Science Fair Hints

### **DEFINITIONS**

1. manipulated variable = the variable that the scientist changes
2. responding variable = the outcome of the experiment dependent upon the manipulated variable
3. controlled variable = the things in the experiment that stay the same
4. hypothesis = an educated guess about how the manipulated variable will affect the responding variable
5. repeated trials = the number of times an experiment is repeated for each value of the manipulated variable

### **REMINDER**

Be sure to allow for an adequate number of repeated trials and a reasonable number of samples or specimens. For example, if you are studying plants, one or two in a group would not give reliable results. Five or six in a group might be okay. Ten would be better.

### **DISPLAY BOARD HELP**

1. Place all typed material on a colored backing, such as construction paper, before pasting on the display board. Use a paper cutter so the edges will be straight.
2. Make the project title stand out by using larger letters for it and smaller letters for headings.
3. Make sure your lettering is straight.
4. Use typed information and computer generated graphs and data tables.
5. Display photographs or a drawing of your experimental set-up if it is difficult to describe in words.
6. Use colors on your display board, but limit to two or three colors.
7. Make the display board from a sturdy material. It must stand up on its own. You can buy a tri-fold display board in most office supply departments.