

Scientific Method and Characteristics of Life

Vocabulary List 1

1. **Scientific Methods** are procedures used to solve problems and answer questions.
2. **Hypothesis** is an educated guess.
3. **Control** is the standard to which the outcome of a test is compared.
4. **Variable** is something in an experiment that can change.
5. Scientific **law** is a statement about how things work in nature that seems to be true all the time.
6. Scientific **theory** is a possible explanation of things or events based on scientific knowledge that is the result of many observations and experiments.
7. **Organism** is any living thing.
8. **Cell** is the basic unit of life.
9. **Stimulus** is a change in the environment of an organism.
10. **Response** is an organism's change in behavior.
11. **Adaptation** is a characteristic that helps an organism better survive in its environment. (ex. Frogs have webbed feet, polar bears are white to blend in with their environment)
12. **Living** things have all eight characteristics of life.
13. **Nonliving** things never had all eight characteristics of life and never will.
14. **Dead** things once had all eight characteristics of life.