🔍 Scientific Method Glossary for Kids

Observation
Using your senses to learn about the world around you. You might see, hear, smell, touch, or taste something interesting!

Question
A science question you ask based on your observation.
Example: What makes plants grow faster?

Hypothesis
A smart guess or prediction you can test.
Example: If a plant gets more sunlight, then it will grow faster.

Experiment
A test you do to see if your hypothesis is correct.

Variable
Something that can change in an experiment. There are three types:

- Independent Variable – The thing you change.
- Dependent Variable – The thing you measure.
- Control Variables – The things you keep the same.

Control Group
A group that does not get the change. You compare results with this group.

Data
Information you collect during your experiment—numbers, pictures, or notes.

Results
What happened in your experiment. These include your data and any patterns you see.

Conclusion
What you learned from your experiment. Did the results match your hypothesis?

Trial
One time you do the experiment. More trials = better results.

Evidence
Facts and data that help explain what happened in your experiment.

Graph
A picture (like a bar or line graph) that shows your data in an easy-to-read way.

Scientific Method
The step-by-step process scientists use to learn about the world by asking questions, testing ideas, and using evidence.