

# Vocabulary

*Use the vocabulary words and definitions below as a reference for this unit.*

**analog** ..... that which has similar characteristics to another thing (like the similarity between the heart and a pulse)

**computer simulation** ..... a computer program designed to represent the behavior of something in the physical world

**conclusion** ..... an explanation of a problem based on observations and collected data

**control group** ..... the part of the experiment without a variable factor; allows the results of experiment to be compared

**controlled experiment** ..... an experiment in which all the factors are the same except for the one being tested

**data** ..... scientific facts that are collected, usually in the form of numbers

**experiment** ..... a way to test a hypothesis or try out an answer to a question

**experimental group** ..... part of the experiment that contains the variable factor

**fact** ..... an idea that has been proven by experiments

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<b>Galileo Galilei</b> .....	an Italian astronomer and physicist who discovered that objects fall at the same rate regardless of mass
<b>hypothesis</b> .....	an idea or statement that attempts to explain the relationship of observed factors; an educated guess
<b>laboratory</b> .....	a place equipped and used for experimental study, research, analysis, testing, or preparation in any branch of science
<b>observation</b> .....	noticing something, using one's senses (sight, smell, touch, hearing, or taste)
<b>scale model</b> .....	a man-made version of a physical object that is identical in proportion to the original but which may be smaller in total size
<b>scientific law</b> .....	a scientific theory that has been tested many times and has produced the same results over a period of many years
<b>scientific method</b> .....	the steps scientists use to solve problems
<b>theory</b> .....	a hypothesis that has withstood the test of time
<b>variable factor</b> .....	the factor being tested in an experiment