Graphing Your Results

Now that you have completed your experiment and collected your data, it is time to analyze and display your results. You will need to have a graph in your logbook, your research report, and on your backboard. Remember, save your graph once you have it finished so you can simply make multiple copies and/or copy & paste as needed.

There are several ways of graphing data. You can make a graph using Microsoft Word. Simply click on “Insert”. Next, click on “Chart”, and choose which type of chart you want. Word will direct you from there. For those with an Excel program on your computer, this is another easy option. I have found the following website that has good instructions on making a simple graph. <http://www.ncsu.edu/labwrite/res/gt/gt-bar-home.html#cb2>

Another website with a simple-to-use graphing application is on Kid Zone <http://nces.ed.gov/nceskids/createagraph/>

Some key basic information on graphs is: make it simple and easy to read. Place your **independent variable on the x-axis** of your graph and the **dependent variable on the y-axis.** If you have further questions or want more examples, google has a lot of great websites for reference.