

SCIENCE WORD

1. **DESCRIPTION:** Team members will take turns giving verbal clues **that are related to the selected** scientific term from across all science disciplines while the other team member attempts to identify the term.

A TEAM OF: 2

APPROXIMATE TIME: 4 MINUTES

2. **THE COMPETITION:**

- a. Teams will compete individually and have 4 minutes to complete 40 terms.
- b. All teams will receive the same terms in the same order. The terms will consist of one or two words and will not include proper nouns or names.
- c. The two-team members will alternate giving and receiving clues.
- d. The team member giving clues will be shown one term by the judges. Timing begins when the judge shows the 1st team member the 1st term and ends when the team has correctly identified /passed the last term or when the 4-minute time period has expired.
- e. Clues may consist of one or two words only and may not contain any part or form of the term. Proper nouns and proper names may be used as clues; however, letters, acronyms, etc. may not be used. A hyphenated word is considered one word. **No clues may be given in a foreign language. Rhyming words are allowed if they relate to the scientific term.** Attempts to use codes or schemes (e.g., a pattern of rhyming or alphabet codes.) will not be allowed. If supervisors detect a pattern of schemes, teams risk the loss of a given term.
- f. Another clue may not be given until the reader has given a response. The responder may give multiple responses to a clue. **The responder may use the word “next” to indicate the need for additional clue(s).**
- g. Forms of the term will not be accepted with the exception of plurals and singulars, which will be accepted interchangeably. **“Form of the term” will be based upon the Oxford definition of “form” as related to words: “one of the ways in which a word may be spelled or pronounced or inflected.” Form of the term does not mean synonymous with/or the same meaning as. Examples “geese” for “goose”, “animal” for “animalistic”, “chemist” for “chemistry”.**
- h. Participants may not give visual clues with their hands or bodies. If a team violates any of the rules regarding the use of verbal or visual communication, the team in play at the time of the violation will be counted as a pass.
- i. Either team member may choose to pass on a term. Once the team passes on a term they may not return to it.
- j. When **the judge has deemed** the team has correctly identified or passed on the term, the judge will show the next term to the team member who will give the clues for that term.

3. **Scoring:**

- a. One point will be awarded for each term correctly identified within the allotted time. The team correctly identifying the most terms will be declared the winner.
- b. In the event of a tie, the first tiebreaker **will be the team with the longest string of consecutively correct terms. The second tiebreaker is the fewest terms passed.** Third tiebreaker would be those teams who identify the **first** term in the list passed by the other team. The final tiebreaker is the shortest period of time.

4. **Additional Comments:** Science terms used in “Science Word” may be found in the index or glossary of science dictionaries or textbooks. Care should be taken to ensure that selected terms should represent a cross sampling of science disciplines from **middle/junior high science terms if this event is for middle school students. For high school students, the terms will have come from a high school curriculum. See www-soinc.org for examples of acceptable and unacceptable verbal clues.**

EXAMPLES OF SCIENCE TERMS (Note that terms may cross disciplines)

LIFE

Double Helix
Deoxyribonucleic acid
Evolution
Gamete
Kingdom
Herbivores

Earth

Earthquake
New Moon
Fossil Fuel
Oceanography
Solar Eclipse
Water Cycle

Physical

Fulcrum
Base
Electron
Fission
Refraction
Wavelength