

NAME:

PERIOD:

DATE:

## NATURE OF SCIENCE VOCABULARY 1

### OPINION

- An opinion is an explanation, statement, or guess made based on feelings or beliefs
- No evidence
- Not proven
- Ex. "Rock music is the best." or "My favorite color is pink."



### HYPOTHESIS

- A hypothesis is an explanation or guess based on gathered information and evidence
- Made and supported by an individual or a small group of people
- Not proven
- Ex. "Based on what grandpa told me, we should fish over by that big tree."

### THEORY

- A theory is an explanation or guess based on large amounts of evidence and research
- Widely supported by experts and possibly research
- Not proven
- Ex. Big Bang Theory, Plate Tectonics, Heliocentrism

### OBSERVATION

- An observation is information gathered about an object or situation using senses or measurements
- Ex. vinegar's smell, knowing someone is mad by looking at them, measuring your height

### LAW

- A law is an observation that fits the current information
- Is "proven" with the current information, but future information could "prove" it false.
- Ex. Law of Gravity, Boyle's Law, Ohm's Law