**Vocabulary related to Matter**

MASS: a measure of the amount of matter in an object; measured in grams

WEIGHT: a measure of the force of gravity pulling down on an object; measured in pounds (lbs) or Newtons

VOLUME: a measure of the amount of space that an object takes up; measured in cubic centimeters if object; measured in mL if it is a liquid

GRAM: the metric unit used for mass

TRIPLE BEAM BALANCE: scientific instrument used to the mass of an object

DENSITY: a measure of the amount of mass in a certain amount of space

INSTRUMENT ERROR: when the instruments or equipment that we use in class varies from group to group or is mis-calibrated.

Examples of instrument error:

1. Each group had slightly different balances
2. Each group had the same objects but they might have varied from group to group (objects might have been chipped—less mass)
3. The TBB had parts that were not functioning properly such as the balance nut would not turn

HUMAN ERROR: when students or teacher makes a mistake during the lab.

Examples of human error:

1. Someone miscalculated the average
2. Someone did not put the rider in the notch so they got the wrong mass for the object
3. Maybe a student did not zero out the balance before using it.