

## Graphing Guidelines

1. **T.A.L.K.S.** - Make sure your graph **T.A.L.K.S.** to the reader.
2. **Pencil** – use pencil **only**; no ink allowed anywhere on the graph.
3. **Title** – Centered at the top of the page place a descriptive title. The word “Graph” is NEVER a sufficient title.
4. **Axis** – Label the horizontal axis with an “X” and the vertical axis with a “Y”
5. **Labels:**
  - Independent Variable** – Label the independent variable on the x-axis
  - Dependent Variable** – Label the dependent variable on the y-axis and put the units in parenthesis
6. **Key**- Include a key for your graph if it will make it easier for the reader.
7. **Scales or Intervals** - The scale on the Y axis of the graph should always begin at zero or origin. The scale or interval chosen must be uniform and linear. This means that each square on the axis must represent the same amount.
8. **Neatness**- A ruler must be used to draw all lines. The graph should **fill the space** allotted for the graph. If you have reserved a whole sheet of graph paper for the graph then it should be as large as the paper and proper scaling techniques permit.
9. **Color**- Your graph should be attractive and colorful.

Children’s Favorite Activity

