

10 Terms to Swap

Some of the language we use in science has a totally different meaning outside of research. Here are the top 10 words I would substitute when communicating science externally.

Theory	Scientific principle
Significant	Statistically more likely than chance
Bias	Error in experimental design
Positive result	The outcome being tested for
Enhance	Amplify
Alien	Foreign, invasive
Uncertainty	Range of possible outcomes
Positive feedback	Self-reinforcing
Error	Difference from the real result
Hypothesis	Informed prediction