**Nuts and Bolts Lab**

**Procedures**

1. Lay out all of the items on the lab table.
2. Examine all of the items and their characteristics and divide them up into two groups based on differences in ONE feature (for example, if we were looking at organisms, we might start with the number of legs they have). The groups do not need to be equal in size.
3. Draw a box for the feature at the top of your paper and show two branches coming out of it.
4. Label each branch with the specific difference (for example if we were looking at organisms, we might split them into either having 4 legs or 6 legs).
5. Pick one group to work on first. Find another feature that allow you to divide this group into 2 smaller groups (for example, if we were looking at organisms with 6 legs, we might now consider if they have wings or not).
6. Draw in the next box for the second feature so that it connects to the appropriate line for the group that you are working with.
7. Continue doing this until you have each item in its own group.
8. When you have your flow chart complete, write out your dichotomous key.
9. When you have your dichotomous key complete, find another group that is also finished and switch keys! Use their key and their items and make sure they have set up their dichotomous key correctly.