**Important Terms**

Witchcraft-During the 17th Century, witchcraft was the act of entering into a pact with the devil in exchange for some powers. Witchcraft was illegal and punishable by death.

Possessed-To be controlled by and evil spirit

“Struck Dumb”-Unable to speak

Meeting House-Building where important meetings, such as church took place.

Familiar-A supernatural being that assists a witch. It can take many forms including animals.

Specter-The image of a person (witch) only visible to the victim of witchcraft.

Spectral evidence-Evidence relating to the supernatural. Often taken from dreams or visions.

Physical evidence-Evidence that you can see.

Afflicted-Tortured by physical or mental suffering.

Man in Black (Black Man)-Man assumed to be the Devil in human form

Pre-trial Examination—Examination to determine if there is enough evidence to send the accused on to a formal trial.

Magistrates-Local court officials who presided over the trials of accused witches

Testimony-Spoken or written evidence given during a formal proceeding

Salem Village-Rural farming area located on the outskirts of Salem Town. In 1692 Salem Village included modern-day Danvers.

Salem Town-The area including modern-day Salem. In 1692 Salem Town was a busy seaport town.

Bewitched-To be influenced or affected by witchcraft.

Cloth dolls/poppets-A doll made by a witch to represent a person—used for casting spells.

Midwife-A person who assists women in childbirth.

"White Witchcraft"-Magic or superstitions used to do “good deeds”.

Confess-To admit one’s guilt

Pact-A contract or agreement between two beings

Protrusion of flesh-A piece of skin that sticks out

Quakers-Also called the Society of Friends. Quakers felt that God existed in every individual person. The Puritans and Quakers differed on many issues and usually did not get along well.

Falling out-A quarrel or argument between people who used to be friendly

Spade-A tool primarily designed for digging

Rogue-A person who is deceitful or dishonest.

Dost-“Do”

Thou—“You”

To Plague-To bother or annoy someone with something

Fits-physical and emotional episodes. In the 17th century the meaning had more to do with experiences that were involuntary, rather than the way we use “having a fit” today.