

Observing Group Plans

Many of us are familiar with the Scientific Method. Most people agree the steps are:

1. Ask a question (after you observe of course)
2. Make a hypothesis
3. Take data or conduct research
4. Analyze the results
5. Draw conclusions- was my hypothesis correct or not?

In the social world, we use the Social Scientific Method. This is the process we go through to make observe and make smart guesses about the world around us. The steps are:

1. Observe the world around us
2. Make a smart guess (hypothesis)
3. Take data (observe or try it out)
4. Interpret (did the clues I observed fit my guess)
5. Keep or change my guess

Today, we are observing group plans. The group plan means what the group is thinking about and doing together. We are asked to follow group plans all day long when we share space with others. It is expected (which means it gives people good thoughts) to follow group plans when you are with others. To guess group plans, we look for clues and make a smart guess to figure it out. Let's try out our social scientific method to figure out the group plan.

On the next page, use the grid to observe a group plan. You can either observe on the playground, other people doing an activity or a video showing people working together. Try to find the clues to guess the group plan!

Observation Grid for Social Scientific Method

Copy as many as you need for different group plans!

Question: (What is the Group Plan?)

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| <p>(1) Observe: Where are we?</p> | |
| <p>(2) Smart Guess: I think the group plan is: _____.</p> | |
| <p>(3) Take data: What clues do I see? Think about what they are doing, saying, thinking about, looking at, etc. What are the important clues?</p> | |
| <p>(4) Interpret: Now, does my guess fit the clues I observed?</p> | |
| <p>(5) Keep or Adapt? Should I keep it or change it?</p> | |