**Activity 5**

**A Scientist’s Method**

**Grade Level:** 5-8

**Time:** 30 minutes

**Learning Intention:** We are learning how one scientist from the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute in Panama approaches scientific research on Global Climate Change.

**Objective:** Students will identify how a scientist is currently conducting scientific research to look at how elevated levels of carbon dioxide affect the tropical rainforest.

**Overview:** This activity is to be done before students conduct an experiment and construct their own through scientific inquiry. Students will watch an interview video and identify how the scientist, Sara Neihaus, explained her research.

**Materials Needed:**

* Interview video of Sara Niehaus
* Video questions

**Success Criteria:** We will know we are successful when we can identify how Smithsonian researcher, Sara Neihaus uses the scientific method in her research and it is important.

**Activity:**

1. Pass out the video question guide sheet or have students copy them into their notebooks.
2. Before viewing the video, review the scientific method with students. You may want to refer to posters or write components on the board.
3. View the interview with Smithsonian scientist, Sara Niehaus and have students identify the components of the scientific method used in her research.
4. Have students discuss answers and write draw conclusions about the significance of her research.

**Closure:** Review success criteria. Have students share their responses as a class, recording them on chart paper to reference during Activity 6- Student-led Inquiry.

Directions: View the video of the Smithsonian Researcher, Sara Neihaus and identify how she uses parts of the scientific method in her research. Discuss you answers with your group and explain why her research is important.

Name of Researcher: Sara Neihaus

Problem: (question)

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Hypothesis: (Predict findings)

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Procedure: (Steps for making observations and collecting data)

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Importance of Research:

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