

Driven to Discover:

Citizen science as a springboard into science investigations

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What is Citizen Science?

Research, education, and community development tool that involves people who are not professional scientists in “authentic” scientific study.



Educational Outcomes of CS

Participants...

- Utilize rigorous data collection protocols
- Make detailed observations
- Learn basic biological content and research methods



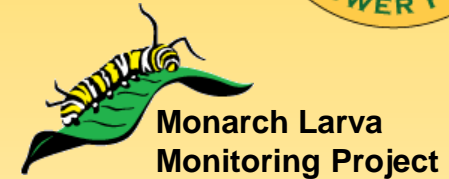
Maximizing Value of CS as an Educational Tool

- Avoid “citizen technician” phenomenon.
- Focus on reasons for protocols, and significance of observations.
- Encourage independent research to increase learning about science process.

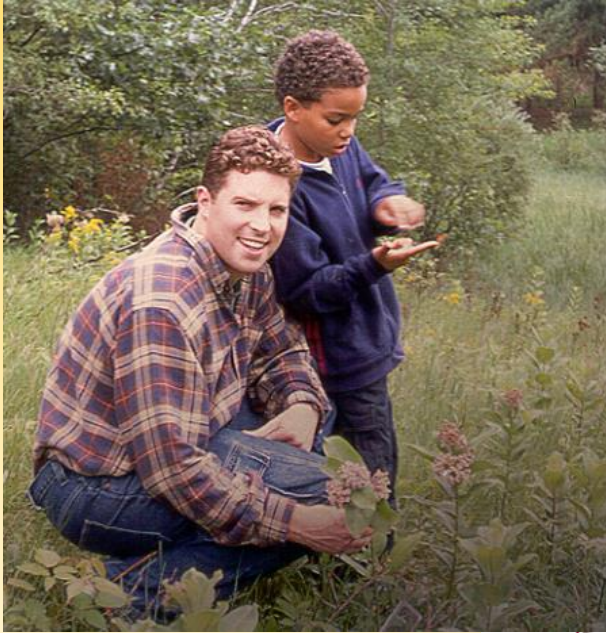


Driven to Discover....

- Builds on existing citizen science programs
- Nonformal and Formal settings
- D2D “Process”



Observing and Asking Questions



SCIENTIST'S LOG

Part of being a scientist is recording your observations and discoveries.
Use this page to document what you notice, learn, and try in your citizen science club.

DATE _____

I NOTICED... _____

I LEARNED... _____

I TRIED... _____

RE FLECT & THINK



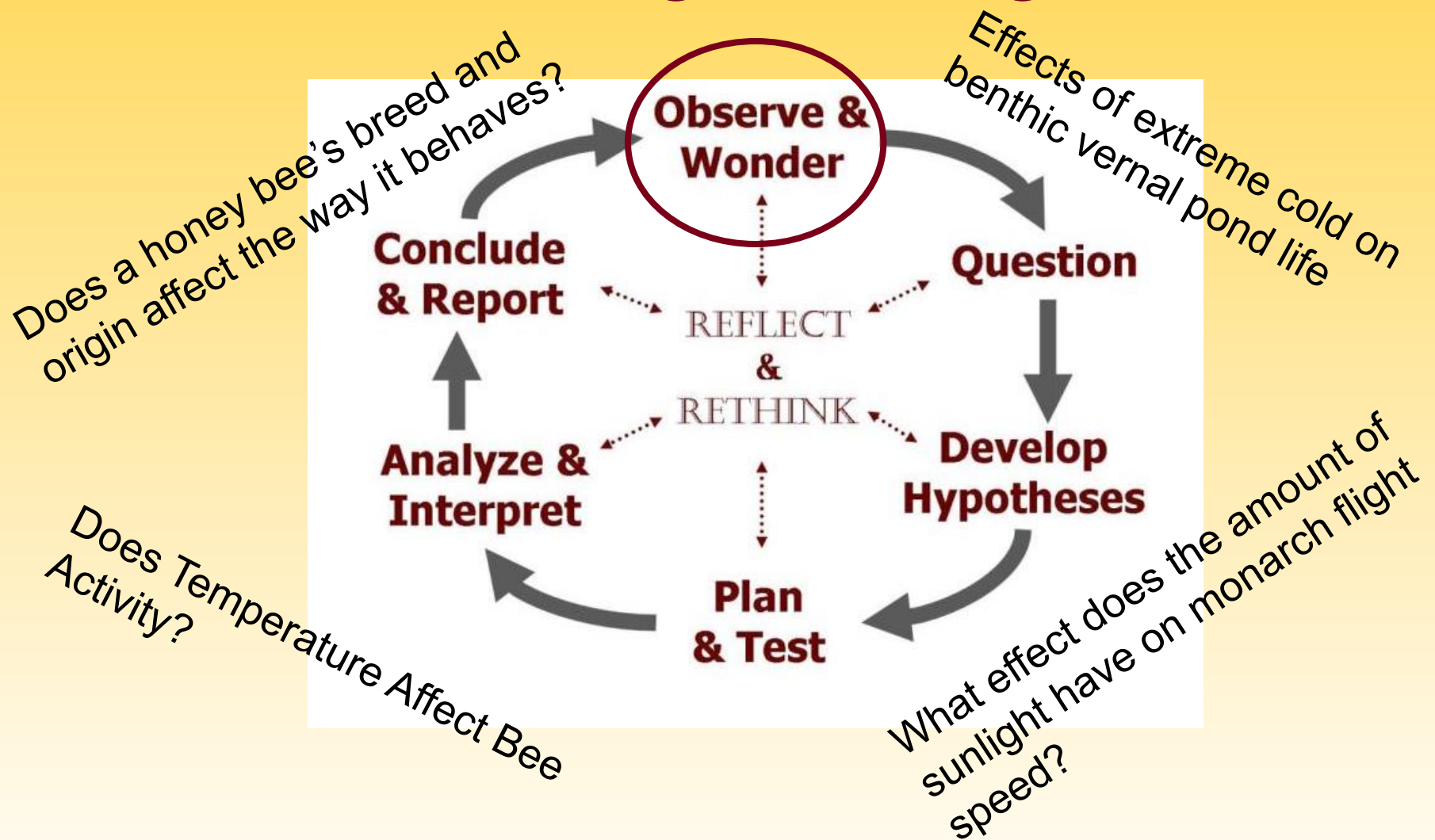
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Science Skills and Citizen Science Contributions: MLMP

- Monarch ID and rearing
- Milkweed ID
- Collecting and entering data



Conducting Investigations



Key “Extras”

- Scientist Roundtables
- Scientist Involvement
- Research Showcase



Authenticity and Meaning

“Monarch monitoring and research are important because we can play a vital part in gathering valid information. Our work makes a difference, and to know that is really amazing.” *Laura Nickolay, MN*



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I am a scientist because...

Science is fun. Science makes you interactive with the world around you. It's better to see things in real life than just seeing it on a board or T.V. Just think, would you rather sit down and experience nothing, or go out and reach the boundaries of your brain?



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