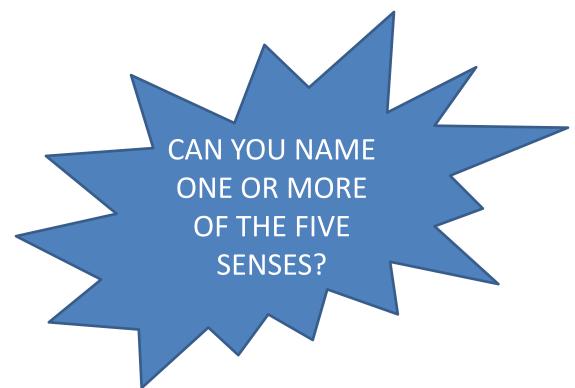
THINKING LIKE A SCIENTIST



Scientists use five skills that make them successful!

SKILL#1 OBSERVING:

It means to use one or more of your five senses to gather information.





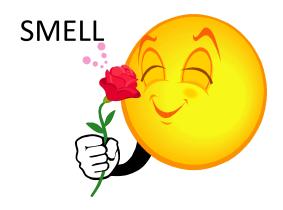


HEARING

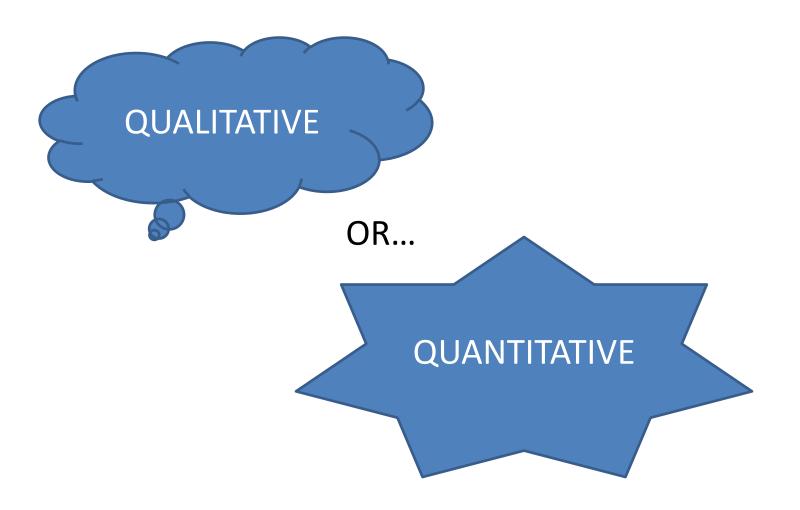
TOUCH







THERE ARE TWO TYPES OF OBSERVATIONS



WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

Qualitative Data

- Overview: Deals with descriptions.
- Data can be observed but not measured.
- Colors, textures, smells, tastes, appearance, beauty, etc.
- Qualitative → Quality

Quantitative Data

- Overview: Deals with numbers.
- Data which can be measured.
- Length, height, area, volume, weight, speed, time, temperature, humidity, sound levels, cost, members, ages, etc.
- Quantitative → Quantity

EXAMPLE #1



- Oil Painting
- Qualitative data:
- blue/green color, gold frame
- smells old and musty
- texture shows brush strokes of oil paint
- peaceful scene of the country
- masterful brush stroke

- Oil Painting
- Quantitative data:
- picture is 10" by 14"
- with frame 14" by 18"
- weighs 8.5 pounds
- surface area of painting is 140 sq. in.
- cost \$300

EXAMPLE #2

- Latte
- Qualitative data:
- robust aroma
- frothy appearance
- strong taste
- burgundy cup

- Latte
- Quantitative data:
- 12 ounces of latte
- serving temperature
 150° F.
- serving cup 7 inches in height
- cost \$4.95

EXAMPLE #3

- 6TH GRADE CLASS
- QUALITATIVE:
- friendly demeanors
- helpful
- environmentalists
- positive school spirit

- 6TH GRADE CLASS
- QUANTITATIVE
- 672 students
- 394 girls, 278 boys
- 68% on honor roll
- 150 students accelerated in mathematics

A scientist in the act of making observations

LET'S

DISCUSS

THIS

PICTURE!

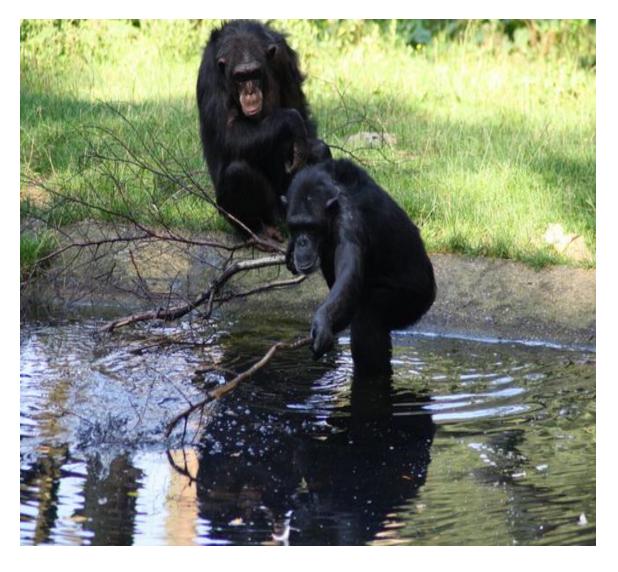
Jane Goodall



SKILL #2 INFERRING

 INFERRING MEANS TO EXPLAIN OR INTERPRET THE THINGS THAT YOU OBSERVE

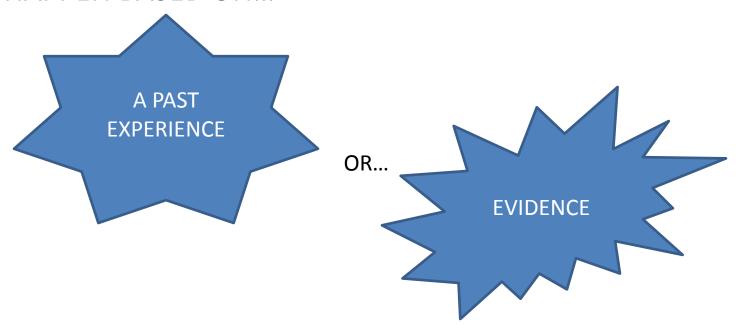
LET'S INFER ABOUT THIS PICTURE!



What if I told you that chimps were afraid of water?

SKILL #3 PREDICTING

 PREDICTING MEANS MAKING A FORECAST OF WHAT WILL HAPPEN BASED ON...

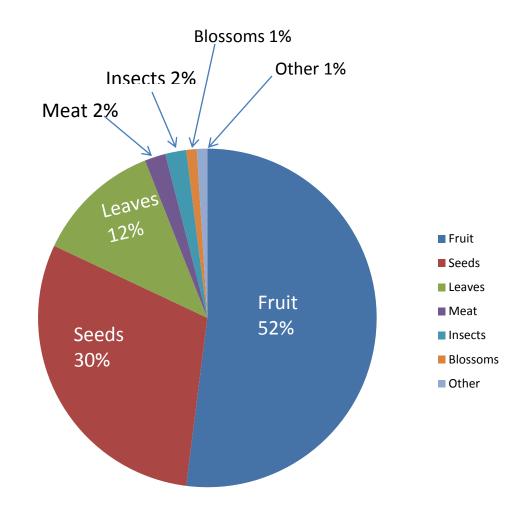


LET'S ANALYZE THE DATA AND MAKE A PREDICTION.

Chimp Food

This graph shows the diet of chimps at Gombe National Park during May of one year.

- 1. Reading Graphs According to the graph, what foods do chimps eat?
- 2. Interpreting Data Did chimps feed on seeds or leaves during this month?
- 3. Calculating What percentage of the diet did blossoms, seeds, leaves and fruit make up?
- 4. Predicting Suppose you learn that November is the main termite fishing season when chimps spend a large part of their time eating termites. Predict how the chimp diet might change in November.



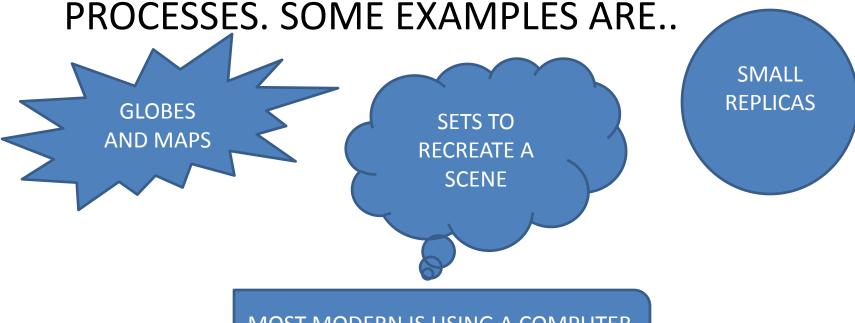
CHIMP DIET IN MAY

SKILL #4 CLASSIFYING

 CLASSIFYING IS THE PROCESS OF GROUPING TOGETHER ITEMS THAT ARE ALIKE IN SOME WAY.

SKILL #5 MAKING MODELS

 MAKING MODELS INVOLVES CREATING REPRESENTATIONS OF COMPLEX OBJECTS OR



MOST MODERN IS USING A COMPUTER TO MAKE A SIMULATION

LET'S DISCUSS SCIENTIFIC ATTITUDES!

SCIENTIFIC ATTITUDES

Curiosity

Honesty

Open-Mindedness and Skepticism

Creativity

CURIOSITY

- An important attitude that drives scientists.
- Successful scientists are eager to learn more about the topics they study.
- They stick with problems in spite of setbacks!



HONESTY

 Good scientists always report their observations and results truthfully.

 Honesty is especially important when the results go against previous ideas or

predictions.



OPEN-MINDEDNESS AND SKEPTICISM

 Scientists need to be able to accept new and different ideas, however....

 Open-mindedness must be balanced by skepticism which is having an attitude of

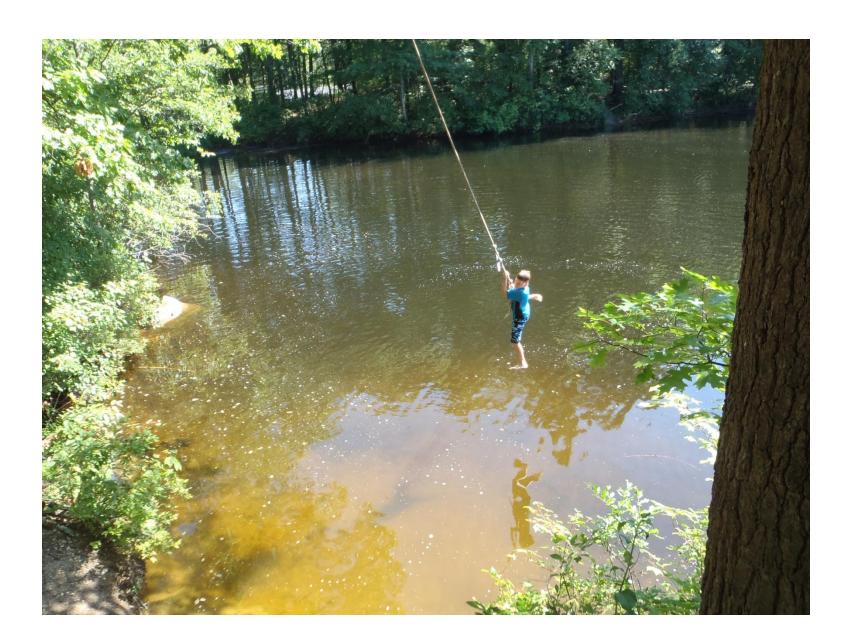
doubt.



CREATIVITY

- Whether scientists study chimps or earthquakes, problems may arise.
- Sometimes it takes a bit of creativity to solve a problem.
- Creativity means coming up with inventive ways to solve problems or produce new things.

REAL WORLD EXAMPLE: DOMINIC'S INSPIRATION





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