Student Discussion Worksheet

Directions: Working with a partner, choose two articles about SN 10 scientists. You can pick articles from the October 12, 2019 & October 26, 2019 issue of Science News or use the Science News archive to find more choices. Decide which partner is reading which article and spend about 10 minutes reading your article thoroughly. Once you feel you’re an expert on the scientist you chose, tell your partner all you know about your scientist, including the scientist’s life experiences and research findings. Your goal should be to make your partner an expert on the scientist you read about. Once you both feel knowledgeable about the two scientists you chose, answer the following comparison questions together.

1. Do you think the two scientists could collaborate on a shared research topic or goal? How might their work connect?

2. Describe what you know about each of your scientists’ life paths. What experiences have helped each to become a successful science researcher? Do the two scientists share any experiences? Using the scientists’ education, life and career experiences as a springboard, outline one possible path to success as a scientist.

3. Compare the types of data discussed in each article and how the data were analyzed. Explain how data collection is key to achieving a goal in science research. Describe how a scientist determines what types of data to collect and analyze.

4. Think about how the author of each article approached their topic. What factors might have affected what the author chose to include and what he or she chose to leave out? How would you go about writing a career profile of someone who’s found success in science? Who would your audience be? What would be your goal? What aspects would you include and how much would you emphasize each?