ATTITUDE TOWARDS SCIENCE INQUIRY (PRESCHOOL – GRADE 2)

Directions: For a teacher/a researcher: This questionnaire is designed for students who have limited reading and writing abilities. It is best to interview a small number of students (4 to 6) at a time. Please record students’ responses to each question through notes and/or audio taping. Remind the students that there are no “right” or “wrong” answers to the following questions.

1. What kinds of work do scientists DO?

2. Explain HOW scientists do their work. I’m not asking what they do but how they do the work you just described for the last question?

3. Do you do science in your classroom? Yes or No, and why? Give me an example.

4. There was a woman who loved birds. She traveled around the world to study them. One day, she noticed a group of birds with a very strangely shaped beak. She also noticed that all the birds with this shaped beak ate the same type of foods. When she traveled to another country, she discovered a very different type of bird that had this same shaped beak. And they ate the same type of foods as the other birds with this same beak. She decided that there is connection between birds’ beak shapes and the type of food they ate.

   (a) What should she do next to see if her idea is correct?

   (b) Do you think she was working like a scientist? Why or why not?

   (c) Do you think her work was an experiment? Why or why not?

5. A long time ago all the dinosaurs died. Many scientists have tried to find out why this happened. They have many ideas about what happened and do not always agree with each other.

   (a) Why do you think they have come up with different reasons for why the dinosaurs died?

   (b) If your friend said that he knew the reason for what happened to the dinosaurs, what would he have to tell scientists to make them believe him?

   (c) Why?