## Elementary Science Academic Circles

**Topic:** Scientists and Their Contributions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>To create a fun way for adults to help their students’ learn about scientists and what they do.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Materials</td>
<td>A computer with internet access, paper, pencils, crayons, a small object that will be the Talking Piece.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Set Up</td>
<td>Arrange everyone in the family to sit together in a circle in a space where nothing is in the middle of the circle</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Steps</th>
<th><strong>Circle #2 - How have scientists improved your lives?</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Guidelines | Read the Guidelines out loud to your children:  
- This is our family learning circle. We are going to learn from each other by speaking from the heart, listening from the heart, say just enough, and trust you know what to say. |
| Opening Activity | This is a fun question to get started. This could also be a question to ask how everyone is feeling/doing. Everyone takes a turn by passing the talking piece. Everyone else is listening.  
- Name something that a scientist has done to make your life better.  
The parent should start the round by sharing their answer, possibly an answer along the thought process of what scientists have done for me lately.  
**Round 1, 2 and 3 are designed for elementary students. Skip to Round 4 for secondary students.** |

**Round 1 (Elementary)**  
Read the following to your student, and prompt your student to begin the round with their answers:  
- What is a scientist and who can be a scientist?  

**Round 2 (Elementary)**  
Watch the video “American Inventors for Kids”.  
-  [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dYDJ3IDrfyY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dYDJ3IDrfyY)  
Read the following to your children, and prompt your child to begin the round with their answers:  
- What did you learn about scientists?  

**Round 3 (Elementary)**  
Read the following to your children, and prompt your child to begin the round with their answers:  
- What subjects do you need to study to be a scientist?  

**Round 4 (Secondary)**  
Watch the video, “Top 20 Biggest Scientific Discoveries of the Century So Far”.  
-  [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=thsrAhuZP8k](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=thsrAhuZP8k)  
Read the following to your children, and prompt your child to begin the round with their answers:  
- What is the greatest invention and why?  

**Closing**  
Have each person in the circle draw themselves as a scientist. Encourage creativity and encourage students to add details to their pictures.  
Read the following to your children, and prompt your child to begin the round with their answers:  
- Tell us about your picture.  
- Please share a positive response for each picture.  

---

*At Home Lesson created by Yanitzie Oquendo, Assistant Principal, Killeen ISD  
Adapted with permission from Restorative Training by Dr. Gaye Lang at Texas Education Agency, Copyright March 2020*