

Roundtable Discussion Guide

Roundtable Discussions are the most flexible format offered at the conference, perfect for sharing, developing, and getting feedback on works in progress. The sessions are likely to be quite different, depending on the mix of students, topics and stages of development of their projects. The purpose of the roundtables is the same:

1. Provide a forum for early stage researchers to participate.
2. Encourage student research.
3. Create a pipeline of student researchers for future SRD.
4. Facilitate small group discussion about scholarly research.

Student Researcher Commitment

1. Prepare a 5-minute verbal project description and a handout to share with others at the roundtable.
2. Compile a list of questions/talking points they would like addressed during the roundtable discussion.

MODERATOR ROLE AT ROUND TABLES

1. Open with round robin introductions. Include your own research experiences (esp. as a student) and the importance of student research.
2. Encourage (and time) each student researcher to share her/his ideas and handouts.
3. Prompt each as needed to discuss their research question(s), why they think these are important, the research process, key learning, and challenges.
4. Encourage other student researchers to join in adding value to the early stage research by:
 - a. listening actively
 - b. taking notes
 - c. developing their questions and feedback for each student who shares their work
 - d. engaging in discussion
 - e. returning feedback sheets to you for quick review.
5. Model behavior in 4., above.
6. Time permitting, introduce the scientific method and its value in everyday life, theory building, and paradigm shifting (ideas to prompt/remind are on next pages).

Thank you for your time and role in motivating students to persist with their research ideas and projects.

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Your goal is to add value to the research enterprise by actively participating in discussion and questioning.

Name of project/student researcher _____

Did the researcher have a handout for you? Yes No

What do you understand about the research project?

What questions arise as you listen to the researcher speak about her/his research?

What suggestions do you have for the researcher?

SCIENTIFIC METHOD IN EVERYDAY LIFE

Cooking

GOAL	To prepare a food dish
MODEL	The recipe
DATA	Tastings during preparation or when served
EVALUATION	Decisions on how it tastes
REVISION	Changes to the recipe

Designing advertisements

GOAL	Improve sales
MODELS	Current and modified ads
DATA	Responses to each ad in trials
EVALUATION	Deciding which ad most closely achieves your goal in numbers of responses
REVISION	Adopting an ad for general distribution

Writing a news article

GOAL	Write a stimulating article
MODEL	Current draft
DATA	Reactions to the draft
EVALUATION	Are the reactions achieved by your draft those you want to achieve?
REVISION	New drafts

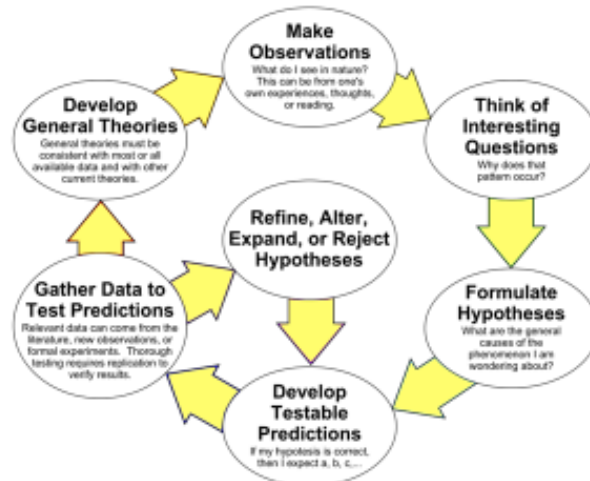
Running a Company

GOAL	Increase profits
MODEL	A plan showing anticipated revenues and expenses
DATA	Actual revenues and expenses
EVALUATION	Comparison of plan to data
REVISION	Modifications of the plan in response to the evaluation

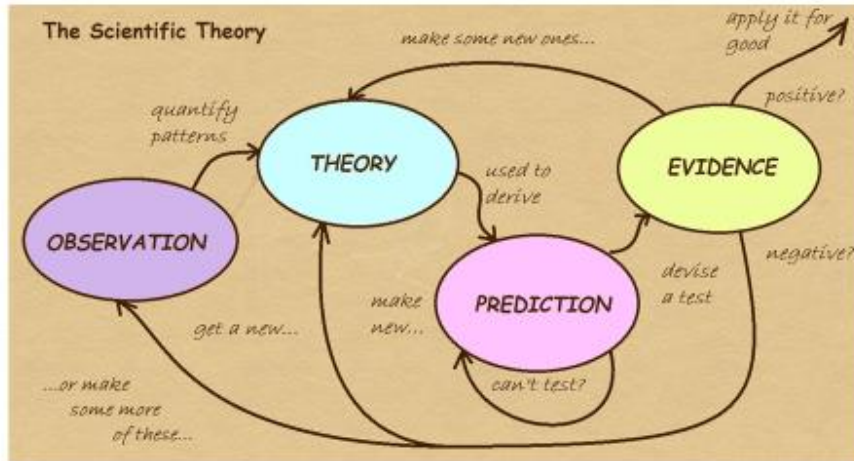
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SCIENTIFIC METHOD—TRIAL & ERROR—IS CYCLICAL

The Scientific Method as an Ongoing Process



SCIENTIFIC METHOD & THEORY BUILDING



SCIENTIFIC METHOD AND REVOLUTIONS

FIGURE 1-1 The revolutionary character of paradigm shifts and the cyclical nature of science (a schematization of Kuhn, 1970).

