

REAL SCIENCE:

"GETTING TO KNOW YOU" (A CER INTRO ACTIVITY)

INTRODUCTION

In this activity, students get to put on their private investigator hats to draw conclusions and get to know their classmates better. All the while, students get to practice the CER (Claim, Evidence, Reasoning) framework too.

PART I: FOR TEACHERS

1. Select 10-12 personal items for students to examine.
2. Lay out objects on a table. Describe objects if necessary.
3. Have students come up to the table and examine the objects. Suggest students ask, "Why does my teacher have this object and what does it say about them?"
4. Have students write a CER statement about the teacher. Students need to come up with a Claim (a conclusion about the teacher) and support the claim with multiple pieces of evidence (ie. not just one object). Provide reasoning as to why the evidence supports the claim.
5. Have students write two more statements

PART II: FOR STUDENTS

1. Select 10-12 personal items from home and bring them to school.
2. Lay out objects on your desk.
3. If there are students who did not bring objects from home, have students place their backpacks on their desks and lay out school items on the desk.
4. Following your teachers instructions, switch spots with a classmate. Examine the objects on your classmate's desk. Write a CER statement about your classmate. Remember to come up with a Claim and to support it with multiple pieces of evidence and reasoning.
5. Write two more statements about your classmate.