Interdisciplinary Science
Green River Community College

WHAT IS YOUR ATTITUDE TOWARD SCIENCE?
(A Scientific Attitude Inventory)

There are some statements about science on the next three pages. Some statements are about the nature of science. Some are about how scientists work. Some of these statements describe how you might feel about science. You may agree with some of the statements and you may disagree with others. That is exactly what you are asked to do. By doing this, you will show your attitudes toward science.

After you have carefully read a statement, decide whether or not you agree with it. If you agree, decide whether you agree mildly or strongly. If you disagree, decide whether you disagree mildly or strongly. You may decide that you are uncertain or cannot decide. Then, check the appropriate box to the right of the statement. For example:

Statements	**A (SA)**	**B (A)**	**C (U)**	**D (D)**	**E (SD)**
1. I would like to have a lot of money.	**X**				
2. I really like anchovy pizza.			**X**		

The person who marked this example agrees strongly with the statement, "I would like to have a lot of money," but is unsure about the statement, “I really like anchovy pizza.”

Please respond to each statement and check only ONE space for each statement.

Statements	**A (SA)**	**B (A)**	**C (U)**	**D (D)**	**E (SD)**
1. I would enjoy studying science.					
2.Anything we need to know can be found out through science.					
3. It is useless to listen to a new idea unless everybody agrees with it.					
4. Scientists are always interested in better explanations of things.					
5. If one scientist says it is true, all other scientists will believe it.					
6. Only highly trained scientists can understand science.					
7. We can always get answers to our questions by asking a scientist.					
8. Most people are not able to understand science.					
9. Electronics are examples of the really valuable products of science.					
10. Scientists cannot always find the answers to their questions.					
11. When scientists have a good explanation, they do not try to make it better.					
12. Most people can understand science.					
13. The search for scientific knowledge would be boring.					
14. Scientific work would be too hard for me.					
15. Scientists discover laws which tell us exactly what is going on in nature.					
16. Scientific ideas can be changed.					
17. Scientific questions are answered by observing things.					
18. Good scientists are willing to change their ideas.					
19. Some questions cannot be answered by science.					
20. A scientist must have a good imagination to create new ideas.					
21. Ideas are the most important result of science.					

Statements	A (SA)	B (A)	C (U)	D (D)	E (SD)
22. I do not want to be a scientist.					
23. People must understand science because it affects their lives.					
24. A major purpose of science is to produce new drugs and save lives.					
25. Scientists must report exactly what they observe.					
26. If a scientist cannot answer a question, another scientist can.					
27. I would like to work with other scientists to solve scientific problems.					
28. Science tries to explain how things happen.					
29. Every citizen should understand science.					
30. I may not make great discoveries, but working in science would be fun.					
31. A major purpose of science is to help people live better.					
32. Scientists should not criticize each other's work.					
33. The senses are one of the most important tools a scientist has.					
34. Scientists believe that nothing is known to be true for sure.					
35. Scientific laws have been proven beyond all possible doubt.					
36. I would like to be a scientist.					
37. Scientists do not have enough time for their families or for fun.					
38. Scientific work is useful only to scientists.					
39. Scientists have to study too much.					
40. Working in a science laboratory would be fun.					
41. I enjoy going to science museums and watching science programs on television.					
42. A theory is a scientific idea that has not been experimentally tested.					
43. Scientists often draw conclusions about things that are hidden by looking at things they can observe directly.					
44. I find science frustrating and difficult.					
45. A fact is a scientific idea that has been confirmed by experiments.					
46. Scientific ideas that many scientists are very confident about are called theories.					
47. Scientific experiments cannot prove facts; they can only strengthen ideas.					
48. Only phenomena that can be directly seen and measured can					

be studied by experiment					

Part II: Written Responses

Please write you responses to the following questions in the spaces provided.

1. At a recent scientific conference, two prominent scientists presented the results of their research into the possible causes of global warming. Dr. Joan Cloud presented research showing that increased use of fossil fuels has directly resulted in an increase in the Earth's temperature. Dr. Bill Rain presented research showing that recent warming trends are part of natural cyclical variations in the Earth's temperature, and are not caused by human activity. Both scientists are exceptionally well qualified and respected in their fields. As a citizen, what do you think about this apparent conflict?

2. Some of the goldfish in your fish tank appear to be ill. What might you do to determine the problem with your goldfish?