

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## The Scientific Method in Psychology

### Short-Answer Answer Key

1. A hypothesis in psychology is an educated guess about the answer to a specific question. It guides the research and serves as a starting point for experiments or data collection.
2. Designing experiments is crucial in psychological research because it allows psychologists to test their hypotheses in a controlled and systematic way. For example, a psychologist might design an experiment where one group of children plays video games for a certain time, while another group does not, and then measures their attention span.
3. Data collection is essential in psychology to gather information about behavior, thoughts, or emotions. Psychologists collect data through various methods, such as observations, surveys, interviews, or experiments.
4. Data analysis is important because it helps psychologists make sense of the information they collected during experiments. It involves looking for patterns and trends in the data, which can support or refute their hypotheses and lead to meaningful conclusions.
5. Answers may vary. An example scenario could be understanding the psychology of effective communication in the workplace. By applying the scientific method, one could investigate questions about communication styles, formulate hypotheses, design experiments or surveys, collect data on workplace interactions, analyze the data, and draw conclusions to improve workplace communication.

