Group presentations

1. 3 female scientists discuss going on a bike ride on their way to the science museum. Adding in science facts during their conversation. 2 male scientists can’t go as they’re going out with friends.
2. Boy posing as young Einstein. Not portrayed as being clever in particular, but is teased for being dyslexic and not being able to read the worksheets
3. Male scientist is giving unwanted science anniversary gift to non scientist girlfriend. Girl asks that they don’t talk about work (science). Boy forgets and keeps on mentioning science. Scientist calls for manager because bill is too expensive. Manager recognises the scientist and asks for an autograph. Scientist is still complaining about bill and won’t let it go. Eventually girlfriend goes and pays and they both leave.
4. 2 boys are playing football, discussing what jobs they want to do when they’re older (e.g. painter) They ask two girls – one says she wants to be a scientist. Other girls is supportive but the boys are unimpressed
5. 4 male scientists around a table, one suggests going for a bike ride. Others are fairly unimpressed, one of the boys is teased a lot (for being too sciencey?) lots of science jokes exchanged, at the end they do agree to go for a bike ride.
6. 3 kids are playing cards. A boy (sciencey) comes over and starts talking about everything to do with science (chemical composition of the cards etc). They all start talking about what they want to do when they’re older. The others want to do things like painting but don’t say why. Boy explaining why he wants to do science – because an apple fell on his head (he’s a young Newton)
7. 2 boys are working on homework. Another boy comes over (the partner of one of the boys?) and is given the other’s homework because he loves doing homework.

Discussion

* There was nearly always one person in the group who didn’t care about science.
  + For contrast, to make it interesting
* Scientists went to science museum at the weekend – to be funny rather than they don’t do anything else.
* Two groups had scientists who only talked about science
  + But acknowledged they don’t just talk about science – however only information provided was that they were scientists
* In general, the scientists were portrayed as nerdy people
* 9 boys 4 girls as scientists?
  + Thinking about stereotypes. On TV shows scientists are more often men. But in 3 of the groups, wasn’t a deliberate choice, just due to the individual preference of group members. 3 groups had male scientists as they were portraying a famous (male) scientist from history
* In couples – the other person in the couple was not a scientist.
* Scientists tell bad science jokes
  + Based on their teacher, who apparently does!
* Discussion of which famous scientists they know: Einstein, Newton, Hawking, Sheldon Cooper (said as joke). No others mentioned.
  + Famous because..they are on TV, made a major discovery, got a Nobel Prize, did something to change people’s lives. Something you remember.
* If you could only be either Isaac Newton OR Justin Beiber, who woukd you be?!?! 50% equal split
* Scientists and salary – get paid ok but not loads – not as much as they should!