Class Activity: Common Sense vs. Research-Based Knowing

**Directions:** Many common sense beliefs relate to child development, such as “spare the rod and spoil the child.” Through whole-class discussion, develop a list of such “known” principles of child development. Decide on the source(s) of these commonly accepted principles (e.g., experiential knowledge, conventional wisdom, traditional practices, pure logic). How might you conduct systematic observations to determine the worth of these statements as research-based knowledge?