

"A science notebook is a central place where language, data, and experience work together to form meaning for the student." ~Michael Klentschy

### What is a science notebook?

- A place to:
  - record findings, questions, thoughts, procedures, diagrams, data and more
  - include drawings, musings, sketches, wonderings, and so much more
  - easily integrate language, art, science, math and so much more
- Represents a chronological scientific experience
- Silent companion to hands-on work
- A means for students to work at their differentiated level
- A strategy and tool to include the scientific method in all science lessons and activities

### How can the science notebook serve as a tool for STUDENTS?

- Makes meaning (provides opportunity for reflection and 'digestion')
- Develop appropriate vocabulary
- Integrates writing (expository) into science
- Enhances students' communication skills (written, visual and oral)
- Provides evidence of individual thinking, learning, and progress
- Blank substitute for a black line master
- Organizes information
- Peer assessment
- Reference for further writing
- Gain understanding that science, engineering, math, writing, etc. all follow a process/series of steps

### How can the science notebook serve as a tool for TEACHERS?

- Help students make meaning/allows designated opportunity for reflection
- Assess student progress
- Assess student's mastery of content and process (collects evidence of growth AND considers misconceptions)
- Plan future instruction and/or identify student misconceptions
- Supports differentiated learning
- Fosters teacher collaboration
- Determine student's organizational skills
- Tool for instructing the scientific method and engineering design

### A science notebook is NOT a journal:

A science notebook is:

- Data
- Charts/Graphs
- Diagrams
- Measurement
- Notes/observations
- Concepts
- Understanding
- Conclusions
- Procedures
- Used before, during, and after the lesson

A journal is:

- Feelings
- Experiences
- Literature
- Reflections
- Fiction
- Biography
- Autobiography
- Poetry
- Uses at the end of the science lesson