

## Student Sheet: Keeping a Science Notebook



PLANNING A SCIENCE FAIR PROJECT? SCIENTISTS RECORD EVERYTHING THEY SEE AND DO IN A NOTEBOOK.



HERE ARE SOME IDEAS FOR YOUR NOTEBOOK.

REMEMBER - YOUR NOTEBOOK HOLDS YOUR IDEAS, QUESTIONS, OBSERVATIONS, AND MORE.



IT SHOULD BE NEAT AND EASY TO READ, BUT IT IS NOT THE FINISHED PROJECT. YOU'LL USE THE NOTEBOOK TO WRITE THE PAPER, MAKE THE POSTER, OR PRESENT THE PROJECT TO YOUR CLASS.

### Notebook Ideas

- Write the date in your notebook every time you add to it.
- Write or draw your own ideas as well as ideas and information you get from books, magazines, scientists, your teacher, and others.
  - Write a note about where the information came from.
  - Ask your teacher how to record the information you find.
  - A good place to start is by recording:
    - The name of the book, magazine, or person with the information.
    - Using a book? Write down the name of the book, the author's name, the page numbers read, the publisher's name, where the book was published, and the year.
- There are lots of ways to tell about your experiment and observations:
  - Draw
  - Write
  - Take photos
  - Draw diagrams
  - Make a video
- Most anything that can be stapled, glued, or taped in place can be added to your notebook. Looking at a special flower? Cover the flower with clear tape and add it to the pages of your notebook. Measuring with strips of cm paper? Tape or glue the strips to the pages of your notebook.
- Measure everything that can be measured! Add the measurements to your notebook. Don't forget to add the unit of measure. Examples are inches, centimeters, minutes, and pounds.
- Staple or tape the activity sheet, "Ask a Question, Plan a Project," to your notebook.
- Build data tables, graphs, and charts in your notebook.
- Use your notebook to complete your project. It will have all the information you need to write a paper, make a poster, make a display board, or even produce a video.

MY NOTEBOOK IS NEAT BUT NOT PERFECT. IT'S A WORK IN PROGRESS.



SCIENTISTS ADD THE DATE, TIME, AND WEATHER EACH TIME THEY WRITE OR DRAW IN THEIR NOTEBOOK.



WHY WRITE DOWN THE WEATHER?

FOR EXAMPLE, BUTTERFLIES ARE SOLAR POWERED. THEY NEED SUN TO FLY ABOUT. IT'S IMPORTANT TO KNOW IF IT IS SUNNY OR CLOUDY OUTSIDE WHEN STUDYING SOMETHING LIKE BUTTERFLIES.

