# INTERACTIVE SCIENCE NOTEBOOK

How to Organize Your Notebook

| Left side (OUTPUT)/Homework | Right side (INPUT)/Classwork |
|---|---|
| The left page demonstrates YOUR understanding of the information on the right side page.  You work with the input and interact with the information in creative, unique and individual ways.  The left side helps focus your attention and guides your learning of the science content and concepts. | Science interactive notebooks are used to help you learn and remember important scientific concepts.  Why do they work?  This notebook style uses both the right an left-brain hemispheres to help you sort, categorize, remember and creatively interact with the new knowledge you are gaining. |
| What goes on the left side?<br>OUTPUT goes on the left side!<br>• Every left-side pages gets used.<br>• Always number and date your pages.<br>• Try to use at least four colors and organize information.  Be creative; it helps the brain learn.<br>• | What goes on the right side?<br>INPUT goes on the right side!<br>• Always write the date on each page.<br>• Always title each assignment.<br>• Always number each page consecutively. |
| What could go on the left side?<br><br>Concept maps      Venn Diagrams<br>Pictures           Drawings<br>Diagrams           Writing Prompts<br>Flow Charts        Poems<br>Songs              Self Reflections<br>Questions          Cartoons<br>Lab Analysis        Answers to questions | **Guidelines:**<br>• The right page is for writing down information you are given in class (INPUT).<br>• When the teacher lectures, take notes on the right side page.<br>• When you take book or video notes, they go on the right side page.<br>• Lab procedures and data go on the right side.<br>• Any other type of INPUT you get in class.<br>• Highlight important information.<br>• No staples, only glue or clear tape. |

**Some ideas**

Any time you need to complete a left-side page, you could try one of the following activities.  These specific ideas are not required…they are simply prompts to help you focus on how to do the left page.

- Write a letter to a relative explaining to them what the INPUT on the right side means.
- Write a news article for a paper explaining the significance of the INPUT on the right side.
- Write a song or poem that summarizes the information on the INPUT side.
- Design a demonstration for a much younger student to teach the INPUT on the right side.
- Draw a multi-paneled cartoon that describes and restates the INPUT on the right side.
- Create a foldable or other manipulative that summarizes the information on the INPUT side.
- Create a magazine cover that emphasizes the most important points on the INPUT side.
- Create a timeline that orders events that occurred on the INPUT side.
- Create a flyer or brochure "selling" the interesting ideas on the INPUT side.
- Respond to a specific writing prompt about the INPUT side.
- Create Venn Diagrams or Flow charts to summarize and order the information on the INPUT side.

When creating a left-side page ALWAYS do the following:

- Use the FULL space available to you (leaving the top margin blank for your Title, Unit Name, and Date).
- Try to use a minimum of four colors for your OUTPUT (**NO MARKERS**).
- Reflect the information on the INPUT side as completely as possible.
- Be NEAT, LEGIBLE and don't waste space.

# Interactive Science Notebook Grading Rubric.

Your notebook will be collected whenever we take a test for grading according to the following rubric:

| | |
|---|---|
| 100% | • Notebook contents are neatly completed; all pages are numbered, titled and dated.<br>• Right-side/left-side topics are correct and contents are organized according to class guidelines.<br>• Right-side notes go BEYOND basic requirements.<br>• Left side shows IMPRESSIVE, IN-DEPTH scientific thought and effort. |
| 90% | • Notebook contents are neatly completed; all pages are numbered, titled and dated.<br>• Right-side/left-side topics are correct and contents are organized according to class guidelines.<br>• Right side notes largely MEET requirements and some go beyond.<br>• Left side shows IN-DEPTH thought and effort. |
| 85% | • Notebook contents are MOSTLY NEAT and complete (at least 90%), pages numbered, titled and dated.<br>• Right-side/left-side topics are correct and organized with no more than 2 assignments incorrectly placed.<br>• Right side notes meet requirements.<br>• Left side shows a basic understanding of content topics, shows some thought and effort. |
| 75% | • Notebook contents are legible, complete (at least 80%), pages numbered, titled and dated.<br>• Right-side/left-side topics are correct and organized with no more than 4 assignments incorrectly placed.<br>• Right side notes nearly meet minimum requirements.<br>• Left side shows a limited understanding of content topics, limited thought and effort. |
| 65% | • Notebook contents are sloppy or incomplete (50%), many pages are not numbered, titled or dated.<br>• Right-side/left-side is inconsistent and contents are unorganized with more than 5 assignments incorrectly placed.<br>• Right side contents incomplete.<br>• Left side shows only a superficial understanding and/or some inaccuracies, little thought or effort. |
| 55% | • Notebook turned in but too incomplete to score well.<br>• Majority of pages are missing or incomplete.<br>• Dating and labeling of pages is inconsistent.<br>• Right side contents incomplete and missing.<br>• Left side shows minimal understanding, not neatly written, minimal effort. |
| 0% | • Notebook not turned in. No evidence of work done.<br>• Notebook has inappropriate content or words written on the cover or pages. |