Appendix

Science Notebook

Guidelines

A science notebook is much more than just a regular notebook. It is a place where you record your experimental data, make notes from your research and discussions, and write reflections and summaries about what you observe and learn. Your science notebook is a reflection of what you know and are able to do in this science course. It provides a visible, permanent record of your thinking and learning.

Drawings often explain more than words. Throughout your science notebook, you should have many diagrams, sketches, and drawings. Graphic organizers such as Venn diagrams and concept maps help organize your thoughts or material that is being learned.

You are expected to follow these guidelines and any others presented by your teacher.

1. All writing is neat and legible.
2. Pages are not lost or torn out.
3. Mistakes are erased or drawn through with one line.
4. All science notebook entries begin with the appropriate date.
5. Creativity, curiosity, and thinking are evident.
6. Artwork is relevant to the topic and tasteful in nature.

Element	Points Possible	Earned Assessment	
		Self	Teacher
All science notebook entries are dated.			
Diagrams, drawings, and sketches are used to explain concepts and methods.			
Graphic organizers are used to organize thinking and material being learned.			
Problems and concerns are identified and possible solutions are suggested.			
Curiosity and creativity are evident.			
Concepts are supported with accurate details.			
Appropriate science vocabulary is applied.			
Entries are neat and presentable.			
TOTAL			

Drawings and Diagrams

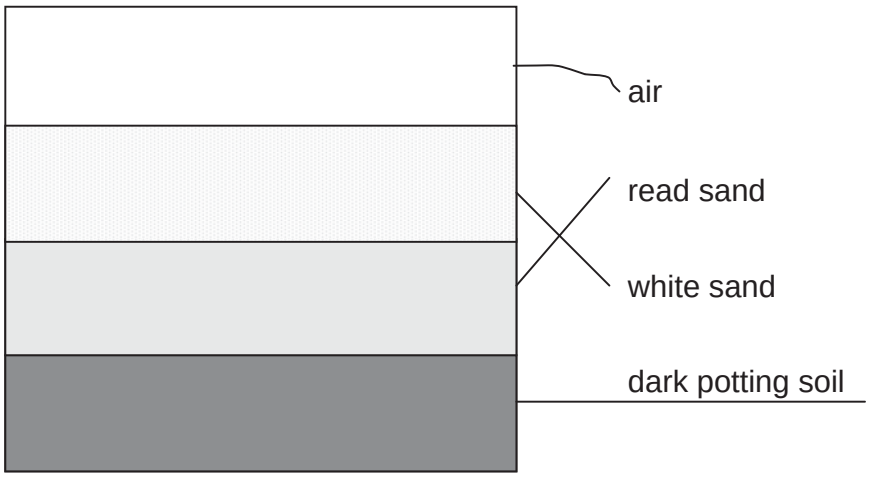
Guidelines

Drawing pictures and diagrams is a powerful way to demonstrate what you know and want to remember. You do not have to be a talented artist to make good scientific drawings. By following some simple steps, you can make diagrams that help you and others know what you have learned.

Steps:

1. Use straight lines to label the parts of the diagram.
2. Never allow label lines to cross each other.
3. Write beside the label line rather than on the label line.
4. Include enough details to allow the diagram to express the concept.
5. Always check your spelling and accuracy of labels.
6. Use color and shading as appropriate.
7. Write a brief caption beneath or beside the drawing to identify the diagram and provide additional information to the reader.

Example of a Poorly Drawn Diagram of Soil Layers in a Container



Identify at least five errors made in the diagram.
How would you correct the errors?

Element	Points Possible	Earned Assessment	
		Self	Teacher
The diagram accurately represents the concepts.			
A statement or caption explains what the drawing or diagram is meant to represent.			
Parts are labeled and appropriately named.			
Colors, shading, or other features are used to enhance the pictorial information.			
The drawing uses the space of the paper well.			
If necessary, a key is included.			
All important information is included in the drawing or diagram.			
The drawing or diagram is neat and presentable.			
TOTAL			