

## Why Use a Science Notebook?

### RECORD OBSERVATIONAL DATA AND INFERENCES

A science notebook is a place for students to record observational data, much like scientists record their observational data. Science notebooks make science more meaningful for students because they are able to observe, record, and reflect on their work. A science notebook is also the place for students to record any inferences that they have made after analyzing their observational data. It is these inferences that help students come to meaningful conclusions. Students will learn through making inferences that not everything in science is directly observable, an important tenet of the Nature of Science.

### DEVELOP INQUIRY SKILLS

Using a science notebook can help students develop inquiry skills and practice science process skills such as observe, sort, infer, predict, collect data, and conclude. Observe and infer are two key process skills that will help students understand the Nature of Science in *National Geographic Science*.

### ENHANCE UNDERSTANDING OF SCIENCE CONTENT

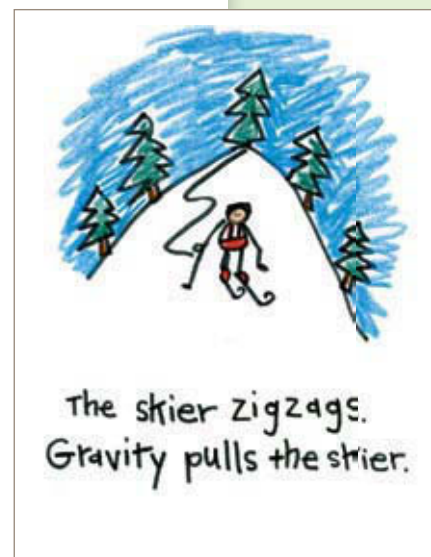
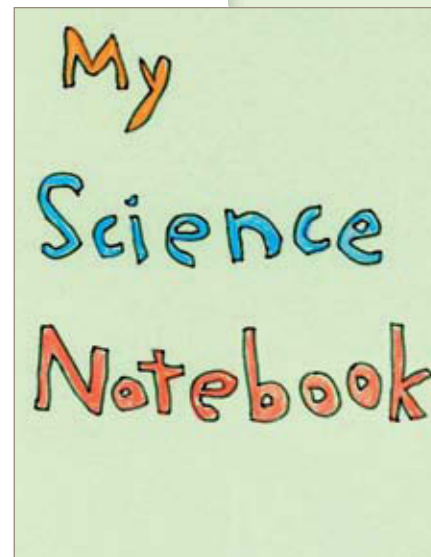
A science notebook can help students understand science content. Writing about what they learn helps students understand science concepts and improves organizational skills. Encourage students to use science notebooks to present findings to share with others.

### DIFFERENTIATE INSTRUCTION

A science notebook provides a way to support differentiated instruction. You can design science notebook use in your classroom so that students move at their own pace. This may include flexible time frames for completing work or small groups to support student learning.

### EVALUATE

You can use the science notebooks for evaluation. Review the notebooks and see what understandings students have reached and what material you need to teach again. You may have students use their notebooks for self-reflection by marking places where they think they have successfully thought about and accomplished a section.



Pushes	Pulls
throwing	climbing
kicking	dropping
jumping	opening
closing	