

Field journal

"Sally"

my piece of the neighborhood

DATA TO INCLUDE IN A JOURNAL ENTRY

A Field Journal is a simple and useful tool of science. Use it regularly, and you will become a more careful observer. You will soon find that in order to record what you really see, hear, or smell, you will start to notice more details. Later you will begin to recognize patterns and relationships in the evidence you have recorded. The Field Journal gives you several different ways to record evidence. On each page there is an opportunity to write descriptions, make lists, and record firsthand observations that seem most important to you. You can express your curiosity and wonder, and to ask new questions that occur to you as you work. You are encouraged to record illustrations of different kinds. These may be drawings, tracings, rubbings, charts, graphs, or maps. For some activities, pencil or pen will work best. For others you may want to try colored pencils, chalk, or markers. Keeping a journal involves many different skills. You will be using skills in language arts, math, creative arts, and science. The more you use your Field Journal the more you will find that recording gets easier and that your journal entries improve with time and practice. Enjoy your Field Journal. As you fill its pages with words and pictures, you will be building your own storehouse of firsthand information. Over time, it will become your personal record of observations, discoveries, and questions.

12 Sally

Fill in the blank with the subject of your observation.

Record the date of your observation.

If you are outside, include the location, time and weather conditions (such as temperature, cloud cover, precipitation, and wind).

Write a description of what you observe. Include observable properties such as size, color, texture, odor, markings, and numbers. Use the ruler on the back cover to take measurements. Try to make your written description as complete and as detailed as possible. Also make it clear and easy to read.

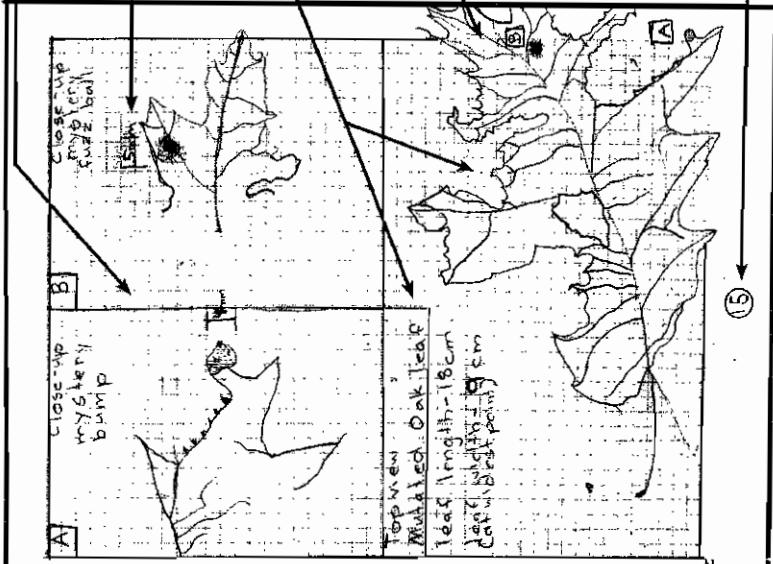
Record any new questions, ideas, or thoughts you have while working.

OBSERVATIONS OF Leaves of an Oak tree

DATE: 9/1/80 LOCATION: Back yard Temp: 78°

Today I went out side to explore my back yard. I found several interesting mutations on our oak tree. The first object I noticed was several tan circles dots on the leaves. There was also 1 dot on the underside of the leaf that is tan and white, but also is very fuzzy. Another mutation I observed is that there is lots of black dots on the underneath the leaf. One last observation I made was that something has been eating the leaf. Large perforations and missing from it.

QUESTIONS:
I wonder what the tan dots are? I wonder what is eating the leaf? I wonder why only 1 dot has white coloring and fuzz.



Use the background grid to help you place your illustrations on the page.

Include measurements of the object.

As best you can, draw what you really see. Add labels to identify the important parts of the organism or the environment you have drawn.

Make your drawing as clear and as detailed as possible. You may even want to draw the same subject from different angles, or draw one part in great detail or make a series of drawings to show how the subject moved or changed.

Fill in page numbers as you go along. Record the page numbers and titles of your entries in the Table of Contents on the previous page. Then you will be able to find your information easily.

Why are drawings important?

When would you want to use Crayons or color pencils?

How can you record evidence in a Field Journal?