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What are field notes? Scientists record many things in their field notes, generally using a writing method. Field notes includes general observations, details of what they have seen and experienced, patterns that they have noticed, anecdotal information (things that are not very ‘scientific’ but are of interest), and personal reflections, thoughts and ideas. It is important to record these thoughts as soon as possible while the details (which are important!) are clear. In addition, you may want to re-read your field notes later and add anything you may have initially not included. Drawings, pictures, diagrams, doodles…these all make your field notes YOURS.

OBSERVATIONS (can include photos, pictures, written notes):

DATA COLLECTION (can include charges, tables, graphs, illustrations)

SUMMARY OF WHAT YOU ACCOMPLISHED TODAY:

New Ideas and Vocabulary:

Lingering Questions:

Discuss, in detail, how this field experience can be translated to your classroom curriculum. What connections can be made? Is it possible to bring the experience to your classroom? How? How can you make your students feel like scientists in an authentic classroom experience?

What resources/materials you would need to include this curriculum in your classroom:

What made you feel like you were a scientist today?

How did this field experience change your perceptions regarding science?

How did this field experience change your perceptions regarding *teaching* science?