Authentic Literacy and Language for Science



Creating Diagrams

Creating diagrams is . . . using images, symbols, and words to visually represent a complex process or system.

Creating diagrams is important **because** . . . diagrams can make my ideas more clear for the reader of my scientific text.

I create diagrams when I . . . write about a complex process or system.

When I create diagrams, I . . .

- ask myself if a diagram would make my scientific writing easier to understand.
- brainstorm a list of important information that needs to be included in a diagram.
- make decisions about the images, symbols, or words I will use in my diagram:
 - I use images to show important details.
 - I use symbols to represent processes.
 - I use words to label and describe steps in a process or parts of a system.