

Give your students a book to use as a Data Journal. It may have blank pages, lined pages or one-centimetre grid paper.

The Data Journal can be used to help students record and stretch their thinking and make sense of what they have learned. It may be used before, during or after the learning experience. Use of the journal will help you, and the students themselves, to monitor their understanding. It only needs to take five minutes.

Some ideas for using the Data Journal include:

- note-taking
- sketching graphs or other visual representations of data
- describing what was done
- describing what was learned
- reflecting on problems and strategies used
- explaining the purpose of a graph or table
- describing the design of a graph or table
- recording thinking, for example, the interpretation of a graph
- using [Core Thinking Routines](#)
- responding to prompts, for example:
 - The most important thing I learned today is...
 - I could use this skill in my real life when I...
 - I want to be able to...