



Why NSTA Worked on the Science Daybooks

Scientists write letters, argue incessantly, make mistakes, suffer from jealousy, exhibit both vanity and generosity—all the while striving in diverse ways to enlarge human understanding. Among the most important skills they possess is the ability to communicate ideas, defend them against critics, and modify their own positions in the face of contravening evidence. Every literate person—every scientifically literate person—must do this.

The National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) is pleased to participate in the publication of these Science Daybooks because they bring together science, reading, and writing. Most important: The primary sources in the

Daybooks—first-hand accounts that scientists and researchers use to communicate their ideas—firmly place science in the context of human endeavor.

What NSTA Did

From the outset, NSTA staff and members collaborated with Great Source and developers to ensure that the Daybooks were created from a teacher's perspective and were based on the National Science Education Standards. We helped link important topic areas with primary sources. We suggested activity ideas at the pilot stage and reviewed those submitted by authors during development. We supported the lessons with brief activities taken from articles in NSTA's journals, *Science & Children* and *Science Scope*. NSTA also provides the sciLINKS extensions that appear throughout the book, directing readers to Web sites that offer further information, additional lessons, and activities.

What is NSTA?

NSTA is the largest organization in the world committed to promoting excellence and innovation in science teaching and learning for all. To address subjects of critical interest to science educators, the NSTA Press publishes projects of significant relevance and value to teachers of science—books on best teaching practices, books that explain and tie in with the National Science Education Standards, books that apply the latest science education research, and classroom activity books. NSTA also considers novel treatments of core science content and is especially eager to publish works that link science to other key curriculum areas such as mathematics and language arts. Hence this project.

Let Us Hear From You

We hope teachers and students benefit from this innovative approach to learning science. Tell us what you think of this joint effort by emailing daybooks@nsta.org. For more information about NSTA, please visit our Web site at www.nsta.org.