

Miss Kelly's Left-Side Note Taking

- Main Idea** ~ Use brown to identify the key message or point of the information!
~ Use this only occasionally.
- Questions** ~ Questions that were inspired by information on the right side.
~ Answers to "questions" can probably be easily found (like in a book).
- Wonders** ~ Things you're curious about which were inspired by the right side.
~ Answers probably can't be easily found.
- Connections** ~ Show a connection between the information on the right-side and a whole separate topic.
~ Should show a deep understanding of the topic you're studying.
- Ideas/Theories** ~ Ideas you have that are inspired by the right side info.
~ Theories (or hypotheses) you have about the info. on the right side.
- Cause & Effect** ~ When you notice a "this causes that" relationship in your research.
~ Use the symbol: →

Notes: The Left-Side note taking strategy was designed to help students deepen and enhance their understanding of new knowledge gained through independent research. It is not enough to merely collect information. Without the "bridge" of the Left-Side where we generate our thoughts, stir up our own questions, take time to wonder, and recognize connections and relationships – the information we gather remains one dimensional and so any products we create exist in that one dimension as well. If these learners are to grow up to become the Information Creators of the future, rather than just Information Users - the Research Leaders rather than just the Research Doers - the Idea Makers rather than just the Idea Managers, they need to practice the methods people use in order to dig deeper: exposing, exploring, and generating the elements, questions, ideas, connections, and relationships which exist within and between disciplines/content.