

Prepare Your Students for Thanksgiving with this Great Notetaking Activity!



Dear Dorothy,

If you have not had an opportunity to introduce your class to notetaking, consider doing so during the month of November. You may use the subject of Thanksgiving to practice!

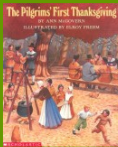
Notetaking is just like making a T-Chart with a few important twists:

1. Be sure to have students include their name, date, and title on all notes.
2. The "Big Ideas" are listed on the left side of the T-chart and the "Tell me mores" are listed on the right side.
3. Remember the "Rule of 5" (Five words or less for each entry).
4. The notes should be uncluttered and easy to read.
5. The notes should be complete!

Give it a try with any content you are currently studying, or start with the ideas listed below:

Level 1: Have a class discussion about Thanksgiving and the ways families celebrate the holiday. You will write the notes as a demonstration during the discussion. A second grade class discussion might generate notes that look something like this:

Mrs. Simmons	
November 10	
T= Thanksgiving	
food	-turkey -stuffing -pumpkin pie
family	-Mom and Dad -grandparents -aunts and uncles -cousins
activities	-eat -watch/play football -church -shopping



Level 2: Read a book about Thanksgiving to your students. One we like is *The Pilgrims' First Thanksgiving* by Ann McGovern and Elroy Freeman. After reading the book (perhaps even more than once), provide students an opportunity to complete the right side of their notes while you provide the left side. It might look something like this:

Student Name _____	
Date _____	
The Pilgrims' First Thanksgiving	
T= Thanksgiving	
pilgrims	- - -
Mayflower	- - -
Squanto	- - -
feast	- - -

Students should use only words/phrases to write down three important details they learned about each Big Idea.

Level 3: Have students independently read an article about the history of Thanksgiving. One that is historically accurate is on the website from the History Channel: <http://www.history.com/minisites/thanksgiving/>. Click on the article First Thanksgiving. After setting up their papers, Level 3 students should be able to generate both the left and right side of their notes.

Student Name _____	
--------------------	--

Date _____

"First Thanksgiving"

T= Thanksgiving

Big Ideas	Details: explain/elaborate

If you'd like to know more about Notetaking, [click here](#) to check out the previously-recorded webinar on Active Reading strategies. Two of our trainers discuss notetaking in detail with many student samples. Remember, we offer a full day of training in Active Reading Strategies. Schedule a day with us soon!

At The Write Tools we are thankful for you and all the great work you do to help students improve their writing skills!

Sincerely,

Your Friends at The Write Tools, LLC



[Forward email](#)

SafeUnsubscribe®

This email was sent to training@thewritetools.net by training@thewritetools.net.
[Update Profile/Email address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#)

Email Marketing by



The Write Tools, LLC | 6590 S. Vine St., Suite 108 | Centennial | CO | 80121