In this FACTivity, you will answer the question, “Does writing and reflecting on an experience help you to learn or understand something better?”

Methods

In this article, you learned about a teenager who shared his experiences through writing.

Take a moment to think about a recent experience you had. Some examples might include going to a birthday party, visiting a friend’s house, traveling with your family, exploring outside, or participating in an activity at school.

Pretend you are writing a blog. Write a paragraph or two about your experience. Draw a picture of your experience if you would like or, if you have some photos, include them with your paragraphs.

After writing about your experience, think about what writing about the experience helped you do. These questions will get you started:

1. Did writing about your experience help you learn something new about the experience? If so, what new thing did you learn?

2. How did writing about the experience make you feel?

3. Do you think what you wrote might help others? If so, how might it help them? If not, why not?

4. Do you think writing about your experiences where others could respond to you would help you learn new things? Why or why not?

5. How do you think writing about science experiments helps scientists?

Share what you found with your class or in small groups.
As an individual or as an entire class, you may write and submit a blog entry about a science experience, experiment, or outdoor activity where you learned something new or different. Make sure that the blog entry is properly punctuated and grammatically correct and that the spelling has been checked. Submit your blog entries to Jessica at jessica@naturalinquirer.org. Blog entries will be posted on the Natural Inquirer Web site (http://www.naturalinquirer.org).

**Web Resources**

**Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison National Forests**
http://www.fs.usda.gov/gmug

**Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests: Indian Peaks Wilderness**
http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/arp/specialplaces/?cid=fsm91_058237

**White River National Forest: Flat Top Wilderness and Holy Cross Wilderness**
http://www.fs.usda.gov/attmain/whiteriver/specialplaces

**Ashley National Forest- High Uintas Wilderness**
http://www.fs.usda.gov/ashley/

**Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest- High Uintas Wilderness**
http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/uwcnf/home

**Wilderness Information**
http://www.wilderness.net