Subject Areas: Science

Grade Level: 7 – 12 (ages 12-18)

Time: At least two 45-minute class periods; time outside of class as necessary

Lesson Objective:
Students will be able to write a lab report effectively.

Common Core State Standards1:
College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards for Writing:
   Standard 6. Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and to interact and collaborate with others.

Overview:
Use the Lab Report template to provide your students with a helpful framework for preparing a lab report (Webspiration Classroom™ Starter>Starter Docs>Science>Lab Report). As students prepare their reports in a visual format, they will develop diagrams which will help them gain deeper understanding and demonstrate their knowledge. Webspiration Classroom™’s collaboration tools make it easy for lab partners to work together and obtain feedback from the teacher.
Preparation:
- This lesson requires Internet access and the Webspiration Classroom software application published by Inspiration Software, Inc. It can be accessed by visiting <http://www.webspirationclassroom.com>.
- Other preparations for the lab, as necessary.

Lesson:
1. Open the Lab Report template and ask students about the various steps. For example, what is the “purpose” in a lab report? Demonstrate for students how they can open the notes at each step of the process if they need help as they write their reports.

2. Open the example file (Webspiration Classroom Starter>Examples>Science>Lab Report Example) so they can see an example of a completed diagram. Be sure students know how to access the example as an additional resource as they prepare their own.

3. Have students choose a lab partner and conduct the lab you have prepared; ask them to take notes on all of the steps and record the data.

4. As the groups finish the lab, they can open the Lab Report template and complete the diagram, or if laptop computers are available they can record their notes directly on the diagram as they work through the lab.
5. Partners can work together and obtain feedback from the teacher using the collaboration tools. Documents can be shared with others using the **Collaborate Tab**. The **Comment Tab** can be used to comment on the document, or the **Chat Tab** can be used, if it is turned on at your school, to discuss ideas in real time.

6. When they are ready to finish writing their report, students can download it to Inspiration® or a word processor, or transfer it to a Google Doc.

7. Lead a class discussion about the students' findings. What interesting discoveries did they make during the lab and while analyzing the data? Why is it important to follow the proper procedures when preparing a lab report?

**Adaptations / Extensions:**
- During the discussion at the end of the lesson, open the *Scientific Method* template ([Webspiration Classroom™ Starter>Starter Docs>Science>Scientific Method]).
- Ask students to compare their process of writing a lab report with the overall scientific method. Why are they so similar? Why is this method used by scientists all over the world?