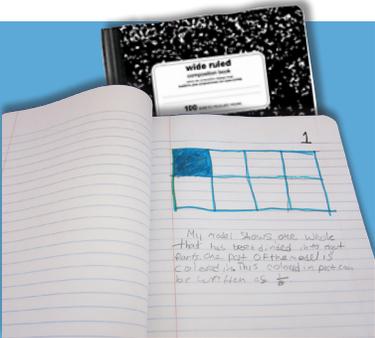


## Write About That!

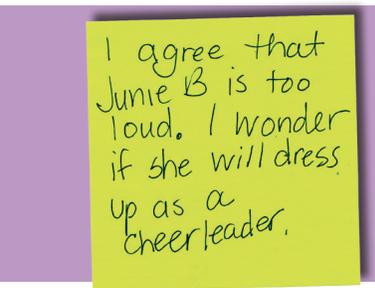
### Tips for Using Student Journals in the Classroom

The new Common Core State Standards bring with them a renewed emphasis on writing. One effective way to build writing skills is through journaling. See for yourself how journals can be used across the curriculum with these simple ideas!



#### Math

Give each student a 100-page notebook, such as an Office Depot® Brand Marble Composition Book (Item #725163). Have the student write the numeral 1 at the top of the first page, the numeral 2 on the second page, and so on until he reaches the numeral 100. Announce a problem that relates to the numeral 1 and a current math topic, such as "Draw a model of a fraction that has a numerator of 1 and explain your model." The student completes the challenge on the numeral 1 page of his journal. Throughout the year, have students complete a similar problem that uses the next number in the journal.



#### Reading

Divide students into pairs and give each child a sticky note. For a note with plenty of writing space, try Post-it® 3" x 3" Super Sticky Pop-up Notes (Item #655185). Each student writes about the day's reading selection in her reading journal. Then the two partners swap journals. After studying her partner's entry, each student writes a response on her sticky note and places it on the journal page. Partners then return their journals and discuss the responses.



#### Writing

Give each student a small notebook, such as the Office Depot® Brand 55% Recycled Mini Marble Composition Book (Item #323629). Whenever an interesting topic comes up during the day, call out, "Now that's a 'write' idea!" Then have the class brainstorm two or three related topics to write about. Have students quickly record the topics in their journals. After just a few sessions, students will have plenty of writing topics to choose from!



#### Language

To build sentence-writing skills, label an inexpensive hardbound journal "Super Sentences Journal." When you spot a particularly strong sentence in a student's written work, mark it with a colorful highlighter, such as a FORAY® Liquid Ink Highlighter with a Chisel Tip (Item #508624). Have the student copy the sentence inside the journal and sign and date the entry. When you need a sample sentence for a lesson on conventions or mechanics, you'll have a ready source!