PCPPIRFTFACH

Scientific Illustration Handout – Helpful tips to keep in mind

Scientific illustrations are drawings of something you are observing.

- Draw in detail exactly what you are seeing (you are like a human camera!).
- You may want to draw multiple views on the same page to show different perspectives/sides.
- You may want to include enlargements of what you are drawing to give better details (use a hand lens).
- Keep in mind proportion.
- Always include a title and a date to your illustration.
- Label your illustration.
- Record observations of what you are noticing about what you are drawing. Your observations may include measurements.
- Record questions you may have about what you are drawing.
- Your illustration can be a color or pencil/pen sketch. Be sure to make notes on color if your illustration is in one color.
- Finally, always ask yourself if another scientist could identify what you have drawn simply by looking at your illustration!

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