

A Good Idea...



Double-Duty Response Notebooks

Buy inexpensive speckled composition books. If you take them to our local copy shop, they'll cut them in half horizontally so that you'll have two smaller notebooks filled with half-sheets of paper. Take self-adhesive labels and stick one on the front and one on the back of the notebook. One side can be a Literacy Response Journal for use during Guided Reading Block—great for use in purpose setting and for quick responses. The flip side, where students will be writing in the opposite direction on the backs of the pages, can be used for another response journal, math/science/social studies, perhaps. The really great thing about this short journal is that it encourages quick responses without intimidating students. Some students are so intimidated by a whole blank sheet of paper! With this journal, they won't ask you, "How long does it have to be?"

Another use for this half-notebook is for the Word Wall activities when students write the new words and for the On-the-Back activity! They're so small and easy to store. Students will enjoy using them!