

Georgia Studies Interactive Notebook FAQ

Ms. Kelly

Team 803

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This year, in social studies, students will be creating interactive notebooks. The information on this handout will answer questions that may arise about the interactive notebook.

1. What is an interactive notebook? It is a working portfolio of student work. It is a great learning method that aids students in the following areas: organization, creativity, independent thinking, writing and learning, developing good study skills and note taking habits, keeping track of planning and learning and showing what students are learning and how they have grown.
2. What does an interactive notebook look like? Students will be using a 5 subject spiral notebook on with information, assignments, activities, etc will be placed on both the left and ride sides of the pages. Specific information will go on both sides. The left page is the teacher side, which is the learning or input side. Here, students will write down the standards, essential questions and answers to those questions as well as any notes given, whether they are hand written or on handouts. The right side is the student side or output where students will show how they process the information and demonstrate learning. On this side, they will be able to be creative while completing daily assignments. All pages will be numbered and dated in the upper right hand corner. (A sample of each page is shown below)

Input (teacher side)	1	Output (student side)	2
	8-3-15		8-3-15
1. Unit standard(s)		Assignment showing what was learned based on information from teacher side: will either be done on this page or a separate page and stapled onto the page	
2. Essential Question(s)			
3. Answer to essential question(s) in complete sentence(s)			
4. Notes (handwritten or handouts)			
5. Summary of information in paragraph form and in complete sentences.			

3. How will notes be taken? Notes will be given in handouts via graphic organizers/webs, summarizations, outlines, charts, maps, key vocabulary terms, etc. When these are given, they will be used, in class during discussion in various ways. Students are EXPECTED to staple/glue (based on teacher direction) on the LEFT SIDE of their notebooks. Notes might also be handwritten in which the Cornell note taking strategy will be used. The following link is a YouTube video explaining this strategy:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WtW9IyE04OQ>

4. How will notebooks be set up in the beginning of the year? When a new unit is started? All notebooks will start with a cover page. On this page, students will be given direction on how they will personalize their notebooks. This is their interactive student notebook (ISN) cover page. Next will be a working table of contents. Page 3 will be the class syllabus. Page 4 of the notebooks will be notebook criteria. This page will also have an explanation of how notebooks will be graded. Page 5 will be the ISN FAQ page. Page 6 will be where a monthly assignment calendar goes. This is where students are expected to write down all homework assignments. Each unit will start with a cover page.

5. What are the ISN criteria? A copy of these expectations will be in the beginning of student notebooks, as mentioned above in number 4.
- 1) Each page must be numbered and dated.
 - 2) Use the front and back of each page. Blank pages will result in a loss of points.
 - 3) DO NOT tear out any pages. This notebook is ONLY for social studies.
 - 4) Keep your notebook NEAT. Neatness will count towards your ISN grade.
 - 5) Fold oversized pages so they do not hang out of the sides/edges of the notebook.
 - 6) Notebooks are to be brought to class EVERYDAY. You are expected to study EVERYDAY, especially for quizzes and assessments. Assignments are to be completed as needed, also. This will result in a loss of daily points for not being prepared.
 - 7) All handouts, assignments and notes will be posted on the class Edmodo page. A master ISN will be kept for students to look through when necessary. Copies of all notes will be placed in the ISN bin, divided up by unit and day. If you are absent, it is YOUR responsibility to get what you missed.
 - 8) Notebooks will be checked weekly for completion of essential questions, notes and assignments. Students will receive 1 grade for the weekly notebook check. Each assignment will be an individual grade. Notebooks will be checked again at the end of each unit for an assessment grade.
6. How will students keep up with work? What if a student is absent? On the whiteboard, there is an assignment calendar on which all assignments and homework will be written down. Students are responsible for writing EVERYTHING down in their notebooks. Each student will also receive his/her own monthly calendar for writing down homework. A file box will be kept for handouts. If a student is absent, he/she needs to pull out what handouts are needed and place them on the correct page in the ISN. It is the responsibility of the STUDENT to pick up and complete ALL missing ISN pages and assignments. A master ISN will also be kept for students to look at when needed. The master ISN is NOT to leave the room.