

ED465 806 - Looking into Students' Science Notebooks: What Do Teachers Do with Them? CSE Technical Report

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By Richard J. Shavelson

Bibliogov. Paperback. Book Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. Paperback. 38 pages. Dimensions: 9.7in. x 7.4in. x 0.1in. This paper proposes the use of students science notebooks as one possible unobtrusive method for examining some aspects of teaching quality. Students science notebooks were used to examine the nature of instructional activities in their science classrooms, the nature of teachers feedback, and how these two aspects of teaching were correlated with student achievement. Researchers examined the characteristics of science notebooks for 6 students from each of 10 fifth-grade classrooms. Each entry was analyzed. Results indicate that raters can consistently classify students notebooks in spite of the diversity of the forms of communication (written, schematic, or pictorial). They can also consistently score the quality of a students communication, conceptual, and procedural understanding and the quality of a teachers feedback to the student. The intellectual demands of the tasks required by the teachers were, in general, low. Teachers tended to ask students to record the results of an experiment or to copy definitions. Low student performance scores across two curriculum units revealed that students communication skills and understanding were far from the maximum score and did not improve over the course of...



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