

ENDING WITH REFLECTION

Reflection involves returning to experience; attending to feelings; and evaluating experience.

End your club session each week with reflection. Reflection will bring a sense of closure and allow the girls to deepen the connection between activities in the club with science concepts, and with positive social interactions. Use the journals as a way to begin the process of reflection. Have the girls write or draw at least one thing from their day and then gather them as a group in a circle or at their tables to share with each other. This doesn't have to be entirely related to science, but should relate to your session. Also, it's a great idea to bring the girls in close together and thank them for participating and thank them as they leave. (If you have the opportunity, please also let parents/ guardians/teachers know about what the girls learned, or specific praise you have about particular girls.)

Question of the Day – Have a question for the girls to answer in their journals or while seated in a circle together. Suggestions:

- 1) What was something from today that you thought was cool or new that you would share with your family/best friend?
- 2) Share one new word that you learned today.
- 3) Share one thing that you learned today/saw for the first time today.
- 4) What did you like about today?
- 5) What did you not like about today?
- 6) What fields in science or engineering does today's project relate to? (What kind of scientist do what we did today?)
- 7) Who did you help today? How did that make you feel?
- 8) Who helped you? How did that make you feel?
- 9) How does this project relate to today's world? Where can you see this today?
- 10) Was there something that you thought was really hard that you figured out today?
- 11) How were today's activities related to last week's?
- 12) What was most exciting about today?

Follow-up questions/statements: Use follow up questions as a way to really draw out what the girls are thinking and/or help them put their thoughts into words. While the girls are sharing their answers, the key is to get them to feel comfortable sharing and making connections.

- 1) Can you tell me more?
- 2) Does anyone else feel that way?
- 3) Who else did that?
- 4) Is that similar to what [girl's name] did?
- 5) Why do you think that was so?

Pair Share – Each girl pairs up with someone and shares with her what she wrote or drew in her journal. You can also have a Question of the Day in this format.

One Word – with the girls in a circle, have each person share one word that describes how they are feeling after today's session. Especially great when things were hurried, girls were busy or very involved with the session to put things down.

Encouraging girls to write in their journals – You or your JA can provide very brief but specific written comments to the girls' entry. They love to know that you care about what they've written! You can also pick out one girl's journal and have her share her entry the following week. Do make sure everyone gets a turn though!