Grade 4

Reading the Weather, Reading the World

SESSION 9 HOMEWORK

## REORGANIZING YOUR LEARNING SO IT'S EASIER TO CARRY

Researchers,

I think you are realizing that as you learn more, besides collecting more, you also need to reorganize. Here's one way to think about it:

Imagine you were going on a long trip and carrying a backpack full of stuff. You stop at a store along the way and see things for sale in that store which you *really* need. You buy that new stuff but before you sling the backpack onto your back, what do you need to do?

**To reorganize!** You need to empty out what's already in your backpack and decide whether there is anything you've been carrying all along that you now may not need. So you leave it behind. And perhaps you realize you can organize things differently so stuff fits together, and takes up less space in your backpack.

That's essentially the process that a researcher does all the time. You aren't going on a hike, but you are traveling ... to new books, new conversations, new parts of your topic, new sources. You can't just carry more and more. Your brain won't hold it - and your fellow students won't want your teaching to take 10 hours either!

So as you learn more, you need to think "What of this stuff is worth carrying? Why is this important?". And if you decide something is important - then you decide how to make it fit with all you are already carrying.

Off you go!

