NOTE–TAKING WITH STRUCTURE IN MIND

Readers,

You are taking home a chart to remind you of ways you might take quick, brief, notes as you come to the end of a chunk of text. While you are reading, think about the text's structure and ask yourself, "How can I recognize my notes to mirror the text's structure?".

Perhaps you'll be reading about an environmental disaster and what conservationists are doing to solve the problem. You could, for example, make a T–Chart labeling one side "Problems" and another "Solutions".

Make sure your notes match the structure of what you are learning, so they aren't just one long list of facts. Let the text's structure guide you.

Last but not least, for the last few days the focus of your nonfiction reading has been on books that are easy reads for you. Starting tomorrow, we are going to tackle more challenging texts.

Off you GO!

Researchers Take Notes that Follow the Structure of Their Texts

BOXES AND BULLETS

Main Idea or Subtopic

- Supporting detail
- Supporting detail
- Add more bullet points if your text includes them

SEQUENTIAL

Main Idea or Subtopic

1. First thing that happens
2. Second thing that happens
3. Add more steps if your text includes them

COMPARE AND CONTRAST

Similarities between two things

- First similarity
- Second similarity
- Add more similarities if your text includes them

Differences between two things

- First difference
- Second difference
- Add more differences if your text includes them

CAUSE AND EFFECT

An action that happens first; the reason something else happens	→	What happens as a result; the consequence of the first action

Detail about the action; add more details if your text includes them

One result of the action; add more results of the action if your text includes them

PROBLEM AND SOLUTION

A problem	→	A solution to the problem

- Detail about the problem
- Detail about the problem
- Add more details if your text includes them

- Detail about the solution
- Detail about the solution
- Add more details if your text includes them