Graphic organizers used in RWS Project.

| Name | Use | Science Example(s) | Picture |
|--|--|--|---------|
| Web (also referred to as the topical net or cluster) | To group similar concepts/ideas related to a unifying theme; may also be used to indicate sequence if arrows are used to connect subgroups | The rock cycle (with subgroups indicating the different types of rock and processes); states of matter | |
| Linear String | To represent a sequence but with no indication of cause/effect | Food chain; scientific timeline; steps of an experiment | |
| Falling Dominoes | To represent a causal sequence | Tsunami; origin of the solar system | |
| Branching Tree | To represent sequences from multiple perspectives | Parasite/host interaction, each line representing what is happening to one of the organisms | |
| Matrix | For categorization and classification | Compare and contrast different animals and their characteristics | |

Science writing rubric.

| Score | Description | Criteria | |
|-------|-----------------------------|---|--|
| 4 | Exceeds expectations | Commanding use of key terms with very few or no errors Connections between concepts are well developed Concepts presented demonstrate understanding at the analysis, synthesis, or evaluation levels; reflect transformation of content beyond that provided in the text/activity by the student Further examples and extensions are provided and illustrate excellent comprehension | |
| 3 | Meets expectations | Sufficient use of key terms to illustrate comprehension; majority of key terms used accurately Connections between concepts are beginning, although they may be limited to the applications provided in the text/activities | |
| 2 | Not yet within expectations | Relatively few key terms present; or a majority of the key terms present are used inaccurately Connections between concepts not present; or generally incorrect | |
| 1 | Below expectations | No examples from text or activities present (text/activities not referenced) However, paper is scorable | |
| NC | Not scorable | Unrelated, unintelligible, or length not sufficient to score Copied from board or another student | |