Keep a Logbook

Midshipmen had to keep a copy of the Ship’s logbook. In each logbook entry, they recorded the date, weather, the Ship’s location, and major events that happened that day.

Make your own logbook to record what’s going on in your life!

You will need:

- Paper
- Pencil or pen
- Outdoor thermometer (optional)
- Compass (optional)

Make your logbook:

- Fold a few sheets of paper in half.
- Staple along the folded edge of the paper.
- Decorate the cover.
Write an entry:

Inside your logbook, write “Date,” “Time,” “Weather,” “Location,” and “What Happened Today” along the top of the page, as shown above.

• **Date:** Write the date.

• **Time:** Record the time.

• **Weather:** Take your logbook and pencil outside and observe the weather. What does it feel like outside? Is it sunny, rainy, or windy? Is it hot, cold, or somewhere in between? Write it down or draw a picture. If you have an outdoor thermometer, record the temperature.

• **Location:** Write down where you are right now.
  - If you have a compass, use it to figure out which direction you are facing. If you don’t have a compass, you can describe where you are facing (for example, “I’m facing the front door of my house”).
  - Describe a route you travel every day (such as the one between your house and your school) using landmarks. Landmarks can be stores or restaurants you know, mountains or lakes, or even funny colored houses.

• **What happened today:** Write down what you did today and what people in your family did today. Did you eat something special for lunch? Did you visit someplace new?

You have completed your first entry in your logbook. If you want to keep a logbook like Constitution’s, write another entry tomorrow!