

# Recording

**PURPOSE** A good report includes the five *Ws*—Who, What, When, Where, and Why. In this organizer students find and record information for each category. This helps students recall information and encourages them to look for these elements in all reporting tasks.

**WHAT TO DO** As they research, students search for and write specific information for each of the five *Ws*. They use the categories in any order when they compile their information into written or oral form.



## Literature

Gathering information from a story like *Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters* by Steptoe is similar to gathering information for a report. After they organize their thoughts, students may use the separate information areas to write paragraphs.

**Who:** Mufaro  
Nyasha  
Manyara

**When:** Long ago

**Where:** Africa (Zimbabwe)

**What:** The king chooses the most worthy daughter—Nyasha.

**Why:** Nyasha is chosen because she's gentle, kind, and honest.



## Social Studies

Students use the chart to organize information from a nonfiction book like *A Migrant Family* by Brimmer. As students learn about the difficult life of migrant workers, they use the Five *Ws* chart to record details for a writing assignment.

**Who:** Family (legal) friends  
Juan

**When:** 1922 (modern times)

**Where:** San Diego, California

**What:** Describes Juan's life in a migrant camp. He goes to school!

**Why:** No money for a home  
Language problems  
Follows the crops



## General Classroom Use

Use the organizer to help students share information about classroom events. Encourage students to compile the information into a classroom newspaper or class book.

**Who:** Floppy, our bunny

**When:** May 15 (during the night)

**Where:** In her cage at school

**What:** Floppy had 3 babies.

**Why:** She was pregnant (expecting babies)

Name

Title/Topic

# The Five Ws

