

How to Write for *Science Scope*

Interested in becoming a published author but not quite sure how to go about it? Writing for one of NSTA's peer-reviewed journals is a great way to share your experience with your colleagues and to enhance your c.v. at the same time.



For those of you who think writing an article may be an intimidating process, NSTA's journal editors have put together a helpful guide just for you. *Right from the Start* is a brief but thorough how-to guide that gives even novice authors all the help they need. Best of

all, it can be downloaded from the NSTA website at www.nsta.org/main/pdfs/writestart.pdf. Or, you can find it by going to www.nsta.org, selecting any one of the grade levels, and clicking on the "Contributing to the Journal" link under the journal name. You will see the "Right from the Start" link in the first paragraph.

Guide to the guide

The *Right from the Start* guide was created to help potential authors avoid common mistakes when writing their manuscripts. NSTA journal editors tell you what steps to follow, how each part of the manuscript should be crafted, what types of ideas need a reference, what good and bad introductions and conclusions look like, and so much more!

Additional resources

- ♦ To get an idea of the style used in NSTA journal articles, you can read a sampling of articles online at www.nsta.org/freearticles.
- ♦ The author guidelines www.nsta.org/153 will help you follow the proper format when submitting your manuscript. This section also features answers to commonly asked questions.

- ♦ Once you're ready to submit your article for consideration, the online manuscript submission and review system makes it easy to upload your manuscript to NSTA. Visit authors.nsta.org to get started.

Consider a column

Not sure you're ready to write an article, but want to get your feet wet in publishing? Think about writing for one of the columns. For instance, our high school level journal, *The Science Teacher*, regularly runs a column called Idea Bank. If you have a brief activity you'd like to share with peers, you might consider submitting a one-page manuscript to Idea Bank. All of NSTA's journals have their own distinctive columns aimed at their own audiences, so if you browse through the journals, you're likely to find something that suits you.



Meet the editors

So, we've got your attention, but you still aren't sure? If you will be in Atlanta, Georgia, for NSTA's National Convention, please plan to attend the "Write Right from the Start" session on Saturday, April 3rd, at 2:00 P.M. in the Georgia World Congress Center. Please check your program for more details. The journal editors will be there to walk you through the manuscript preparation process and answer your questions.

See you there!