



Example used in class:

STEP #1: Which claim do you support?

Claim #1: The Sun is the biggest star in the universe.

Claim #2: There are bigger stars in the universe than the Sun.

STEP #2: What pieces of evidence support your claim?

Evidence Card #1: The Sun is really powerful. I can feel the warmth of the Sun during the day, but I can't feel the warmth of the other stars in the universe. (Supports Claim #1)

Evidence Card #2: Because the Moon is closer to Earth, it looks like it is the same size as the Sun. (Supports Claim #2)

Evidence Card #3: From Earth, the Sun looks really big, and the other stars look much smaller. (Supports Claim #1)

Evidence Card #4: The Sun has a diameter of 1,391,000 km. Rigel the blue supergiant has a diameter of 109,000,000 km. (Supports Claim #2)

STEP #3: Why does your evidence support your claim?

Evidence Card #4 really proves that at least one star (Rigel) is bigger than the Sun. So Claim #2 is correct. Rigel is a lot further from the Earth than the Sun. I reason that Claim #2 is correct based on the evidence presented.

Name: CER (Claim, Evidence, Reasoning) Homework Assignment: Choose a claim that you most agree with. There is no wrong answer here. Next, read the evidence cards that support both claims. Determine which claim is supported by the evidence card. After sorting through the evidence, write your scientific argument to support one of the claims.
STEP #1: Circle the claim that you MOST support (agree with):
Claim #1: The Earth is the only planet in the universe that supports life.
Claim #2: There may be other planets in the universe that support life.
STEP #2: Next to each evidence card, write which claim it best supports:
Evidence Card #1: There are billions of Suns and planets in the universe. (Supports Claim #)
Evidence Card #2: Our Earth is the perfect distance from the Sun to support life, 150,000,000 km. (Supports Claim #)
Evidence Card #3: NASA's Hubble Telescope identified an exoplanet many galaxies away having the same distance from its Sun as Earth is from our Sun. (Supports Claim #)
Evidence Card #4: We do not have the technology today to travel or communicate beyond our solar system. (Supports Claim #)
STEP #3: Based on the evidence presented above, what do you reason is the correct claim and why? (There is no incorrect response here, just support your reasoning)