Miss Kelly's Left-Side Note Taking

Main Idea
(brown)
~ Use brown to identify the key message or point of the information!
~ Generally we use this only once – at the top of the left-side.
~ "One person can have a big effect on the world."

Questions
(red)
~ Questions that were inspired by information on the right side.
~ Answers to "questions" can probably be easily found (like in a book).
~ "What kind of engineer designs bridges?"

Wonders
(purple)
~ Things you're curious about which were inspired by the right side.
~ Answers probably can't be easily found.
~ "Which one of Thomas Edison's inventions was his favorite?"

Connections
(blue)
~ Show a connection between the information on the right-side and a whole separate topic.
~ Should show a deep understanding of the topic you're studying.
~ a Suspension Bridge   AND   a violin

Ideas/Theories
(green)
~ Ideas you have that are inspired by the right side info.
~ Theories (or hypotheses) you have about the info. on the right side.
~ "Menlo Park, NJ was proud that such a talented man lived there."

Cause & Effect
(orange)
~ When you notice a "this causes that" relationship in your research.
~ Use the symbol: →
~ Edison asked too many questions → getting kicked out of school

Notes: The Left-Side note taking strategy was designed to help students deepen and enhance their understanding of new knowledge gained through independent research. It is not enough to merely collect information. Without the "bridge" of the Left-Side where we generate our thoughts, stir up our own questions, take time to wonder, and recognize connections and relationships – the information we gather remains one dimensional and so any products we create exist in that one dimension as well. If these learners are to grow up to become the Information Creators of the future, rather than just Information Users - the Research Leaders rather than just the Research Doers - the Idea Makers rather than just the Idea Managers, they need to practice the methods people use in order to dig deeper: exposing, exploring, and generating the elements, questions, ideas, connections, and relationships which exist within and between disciplines/content.