

search the "Summary" field. For example, if they are about to begin a unit on measurement, have them do a search on the word "measure" and see what they find.

2. For teachers

- Gather reactions on how well your lesson went by looking at the notes in students' "Summary" fields. (See Figure 2 for example.) Copy these summaries, paste them into a word processing document, and use the notes to review and revise your approaches to the topics.
- Identify what you have covered for a certain time period by using the "Date" field. This helps in planning next steps because it tells what has been covered and makes it easier to see what remains to be done.
- Sort by the "Date" field to identify what a student has done for a given time period. Print a collection of comments from the Summary field. This is useful during parent conferences to show what the student has accomplished in the class.
- Determine what the students enjoyed and which instructional approaches might need improvement by obtaining summary information from the "Feeling" field. Topics with consistently low scores across students may need a different approach. Also, the teacher can use these scores to help spot areas where individual students are experiencing problems.
- Sort by the "Materials Used" field, then sort records within a given material by the "Feeling" field. This can help spot which materials did not appeal to students.

Required resources: Database software.

Assessment: Consider using these elements when constructing assessments: number, accuracy, and quality of entries

Source

Gettys, D. (1994). Journaling with a database. *The Computing Teacher*, 22(2), 37-40.