RAN Chart for Inquiry

A RAN (Reading and Analysing Non-fiction) Chart is a graphic organizer that students can use to organize their thoughts and learning as they work through an inquiry. To start, students record their prior knowledge and wonderings they have about the topic or inquiry question. As they progress through the gathering and analysing information phase, students confirm what they knew, record any misconceptions that were part of their prior knowledge, and add new knowledge they gained.

What I think I know	Wonderings	Confirmed	Misconceptions	New information

Note: RAN Chart for Inquiry adapted from Stead (2001).

Other Instructional Strategies with a RAN chart

- **Group RAN Chart**
  Depending on space in the classroom or activity area, educators may choose to have the whole class complete the activity together and make a wall-sized chart. This would be one method to model the process for students before having them complete it on their own.

- **Sticky Notes**
  Consider having students use sticky notes to record their thoughts on the chart and move ideas from the first column to the confirmed or misconceptions column. Educators may also use technology (e.g., various apps) to store a question electronically and have students post electronically and access/share outside of class.

- **Inquiry Folders**
  Consider keeping student RAN charts in a portfolio to provide a quick reference for each student's progress and to give feedback easily. The chart may be completed as a whole-group, small-group, or individual activity.