

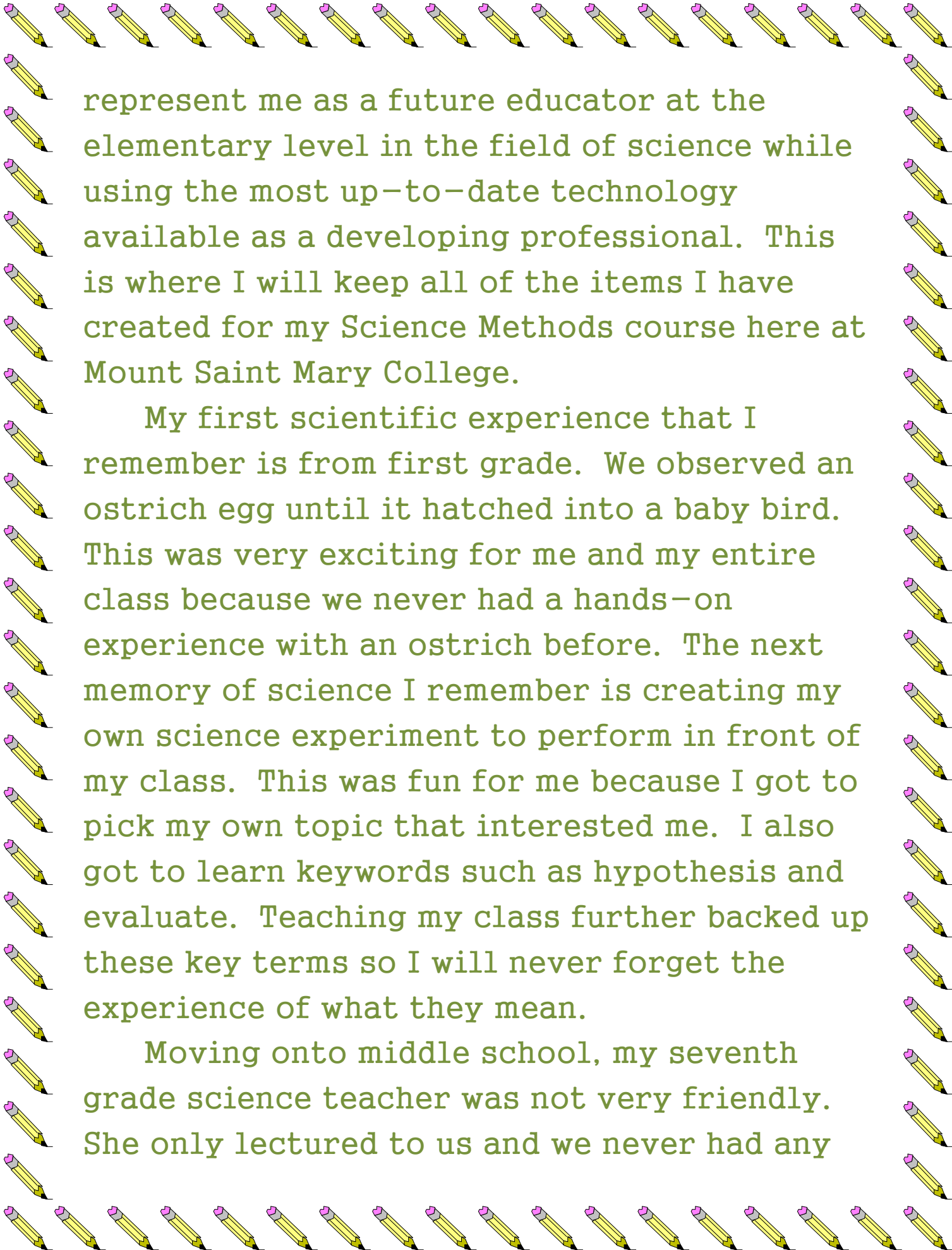
About Scientific Me



Every person has a different elementary experience that reflects upon their outlook on learning and overall attitude for the rest of their life. My name is Amy Wilson and I am a sophomore at Mount Saint Mary College. I am an English major and I am also minoring in Psychology. I am going to school to get my certification in Childhood Education, as well as Special Education.

Currently, I am taking Science Methods for Childhood Education. Working in the elementary education field is the only job I have ever considered having, and I think that adds to my uniqueness. I would always play school with my friends at my babysitter or with my stuffed animals and dolls.

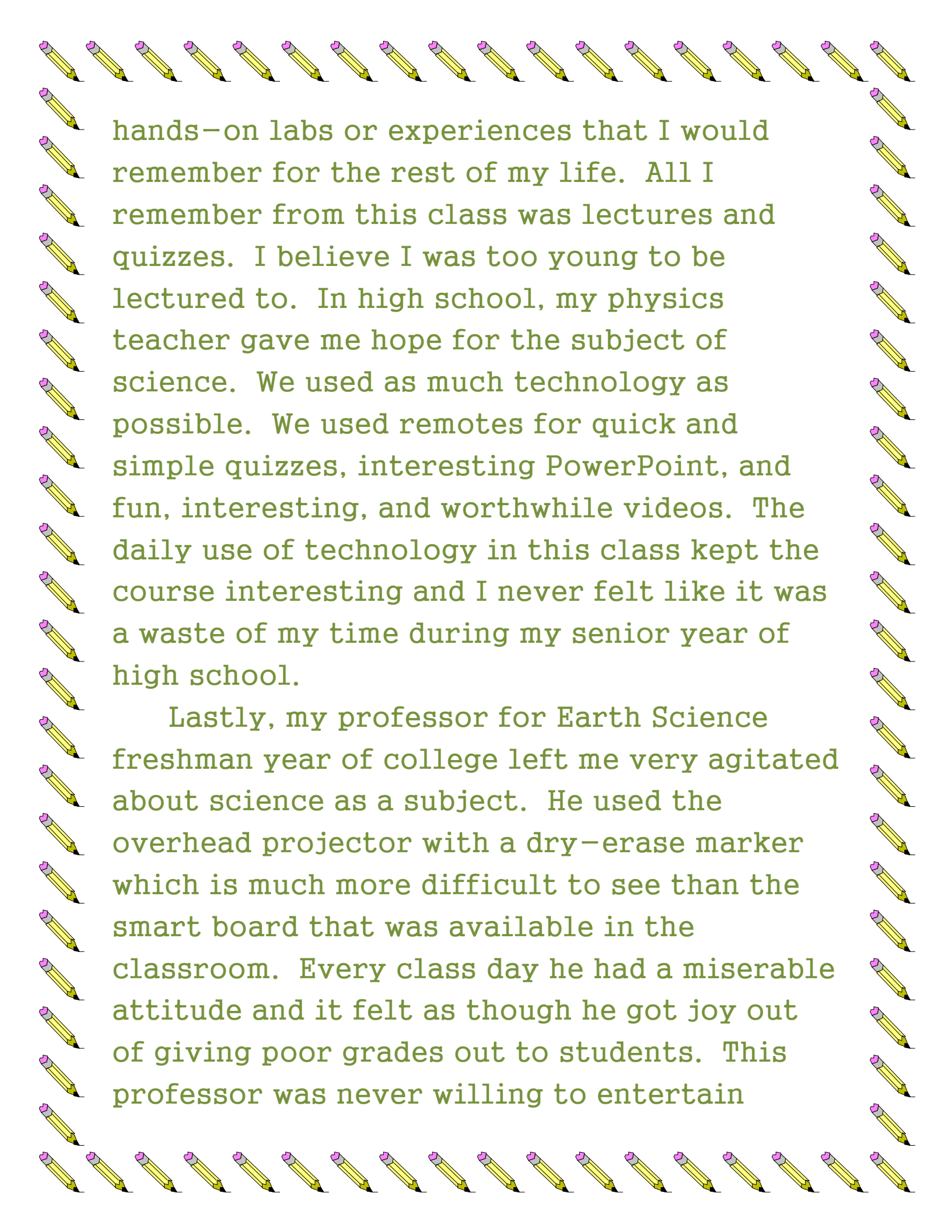
This electronic portfolio will be a place to store and sort all the materials that best



represent me as a future educator at the elementary level in the field of science while using the most up-to-date technology available as a developing professional. This is where I will keep all of the items I have created for my Science Methods course here at Mount Saint Mary College.

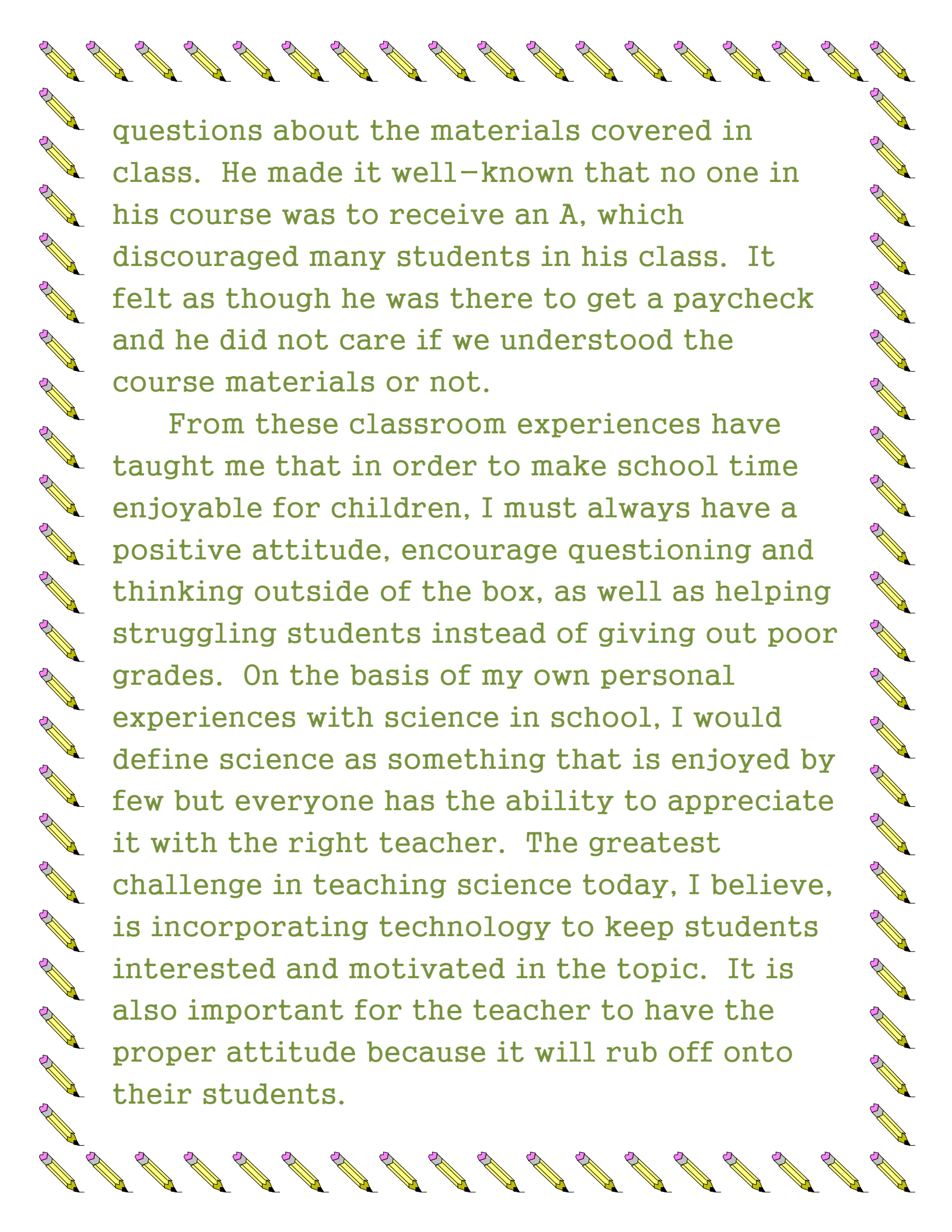
My first scientific experience that I remember is from first grade. We observed an ostrich egg until it hatched into a baby bird. This was very exciting for me and my entire class because we never had a hands-on experience with an ostrich before. The next memory of science I remember is creating my own science experiment to perform in front of my class. This was fun for me because I got to pick my own topic that interested me. I also got to learn keywords such as hypothesis and evaluate. Teaching my class further backed up these key terms so I will never forget the experience of what they mean.

Moving onto middle school, my seventh grade science teacher was not very friendly. She only lectured to us and we never had any



hands-on labs or experiences that I would remember for the rest of my life. All I remember from this class was lectures and quizzes. I believe I was too young to be lectured to. In high school, my physics teacher gave me hope for the subject of science. We used as much technology as possible. We used remotes for quick and simple quizzes, interesting PowerPoint, and fun, interesting, and worthwhile videos. The daily use of technology in this class kept the course interesting and I never felt like it was a waste of my time during my senior year of high school.

Lastly, my professor for Earth Science freshman year of college left me very agitated about science as a subject. He used the overhead projector with a dry-erase marker which is much more difficult to see than the smart board that was available in the classroom. Every class day he had a miserable attitude and it felt as though he got joy out of giving poor grades out to students. This professor was never willing to entertain



questions about the materials covered in class. He made it well-known that no one in his course was to receive an A, which discouraged many students in his class. It felt as though he was there to get a paycheck and he did not care if we understood the course materials or not.

From these classroom experiences have taught me that in order to make school time enjoyable for children, I must always have a positive attitude, encourage questioning and thinking outside of the box, as well as helping struggling students instead of giving out poor grades. On the basis of my own personal experiences with science in school, I would define science as something that is enjoyed by few but everyone has the ability to appreciate it with the right teacher. The greatest challenge in teaching science today, I believe, is incorporating technology to keep students interested and motivated in the topic. It is also important for the teacher to have the proper attitude because it will rub off onto their students.