The Art of Being a Scientist

This is a hands-on guide for graduate students and other young researchers wishing to perfect the practical skills that are needed for a successful career in research. By teaching junior scientists to develop effective research habits, the book helps make the experience of graduate study a more efficient, effective, and rewarding one. Many graduate students learn these skills “on the job,” often by doing them poorly at first, with the result that much valuable time can be lost: this book will help prevent that. The authors have taught a graduate course on the topics covered in this book for many years, and provide a sample curriculum for instructors in graduate schools who wish to teach a similar course. Topics covered include:

• how to choose your research topic, department, and adviser
• how to make a workplan
• the ethics of research
• how to use the scientific literature
• how to perfect your oral and written communication
• how best to publish papers
• how to write proposals
• how to manage your time effectively
• how to plan your scientific career and apply for jobs in research and industry

The wealth of advice offered in this book is invaluable to students, junior researchers, and their mentors in all fields of science, engineering, and the humanities.
The Art of Being a Scientist
A Guide for Graduate Students and their Mentors

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In memory of Rodney Calvert, a gentleman whose inquisitive nature, contagious enthusiasm, and caring attitude manifested the art of science in both his personal and professional life.
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