

Instructional Strategies

Tiered Activities

Organize three to five activities of varying complexity for students to complete. Each activity has the same goal - help students understand a specific element of the lesson. Place students in groups on their perceived level, or present a brief description of each activity and allow the students to self-select. By collaborating and discussing, each student will have a greater understanding of the concept!

Semantic Maps or Webs

Maps or webs help students deepen their understanding of a vocabulary word and its relationship to other words and concepts that they already know. Place a word in the center of the paper and draw connecting bubbles to other words, images, ideas, etc. The students can draw lines from the circles and add specific examples. Students can work individually, with a partner, or in a small group. Use large roll paper and spread out around the room!

Assessment Strategies

Digital & Non-Digital Exit Tickets

Before students leave the classroom, ask them to answer a question related to the key concept of the lesson. Students should write their response on an index card and hand to you as they leave the room or respond digitally, making sure they include their name in the response. As you review the responses, you can determine which students need additional teaching and form small groups for the following day to reteach/review.

[TopHat - Exit Tickets Free Download](#)

[10 ideas for exit ticket prompts](#)

[10 digital tools for exit tickets](#)

[Exit tickets that don't use technology](#)



Classroom / Time Management Strategies

Specific Time Frames

Timing students' work has several benefits. Some children struggle to stay on task and if given a definitive period of time, they may improve focus, stamina, and time management skills. Students may increase their performance during a time limit. Researchers have discovered that time pressure activates different parts of the brain.

With that being said, there are students who will not benefit from specific time frames. As always, you know your students and what is best for them. Use your professional judgment when using specific time frames.