

Learning Strategies At-A-Glance

When designing your intentionally designed activities, you can increase student learning and retention even further by incorporating learning strategies. Here are just a few popular learning strategies and the key components that characterize them. As you think through which learning strategies might be a good fit for your program and activities, remember to also think about what training your staff will need in order to successfully integrate that particular learning method. Start building your plan now!

Learning Strategy	Learning Stations	Genius Hour	Mind Mapping	Reciprocal Learning	Portfolios	Interactive Notebooks
Key Components	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants rotate through preset stations Allows for student-directed learning and for the instructor to work with small groups or one-on-one <p>Three types of stations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enrichment – engaging learning alternatives that enhance the targeted topic <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Building a terrarium Watching a related video clip Painting a mural on the topic Skill – similar to enrichment but more focused on specific learning objectives, students assigned to stations or a designated rotation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Writing a newsletter article on the topic Creating an infographic Interest/Exploratory – hands-on, self-paced, designed around student interests; students self-select stations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Variety of building tools provided with associated building challenge Selection of fiction and nonfiction reading passages related to learning topic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allows students to explore their own passion and creativity In essence is individualized project-based learning Students pick their own topic of exploration Investigate the topic Create a product or presentation as a culminating project Extremely open-ended and flexible learning activity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visual form of note taking that offers an overview of a topic and its complex information Allows students to comprehend, create new ideas and build connections to a topic or activity Uses colors, images and words to illustrate the topic Students begin with a central idea and expand outward to more in-depth sub-topics. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Used in small groups Instructor models the techniques and then students become teachers within each group Focuses on summarizing, question generating, clarifying and predicting Drives home learning as students teach their peers and delve into the materials Primarily used with language arts content but beneficial with any content reading 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can be used to display a student’s best work, display growth over time, and assess whether learning goals have been met Ranges from a simple file folder to a notebook with tabs and sections Uses critical thinking and evaluation skills as students determine what work to include Creates pride in performance as students select their portfolio pieces Contents can vary widely; may include research papers, writing samples, reading logs, project pieces, and vocabulary Contents can also be quite personal (more journal like) such as a letter from the student to the portfolio reviewer, illustrations, inspirational or related quotes, and reflections 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A personalized way of documenting and organizing a student’s learning within a certain activity, topic or the entire summer program Is one notebook (composition book or spiral) with all information organized within it Incorporates graphic organizers and foldables to organize information Integrates color and images to connect and organize learning Provides a way to document learning and refer to previous information and activities as the student builds on that knowledge throughout the summer



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