

Approaches to Learning Strategies: A Summary

General teaching strategies that support approaches to learning

- Establish a physical environment that is rich in options to explore materials, actions, ideas, and relationships.
- Create a daily routine that allows children to express a variety of learning styles and preferences.
- Give children time to approach learning in their own way.

Teaching strategies that support initiative

- Focus on effort, not outcome.
- Acknowledge when children try new things.
- Balance freedom and structure in the physical environment.
- Encourage children's initiative during adult-initiated parts of the day.

Teaching strategies that support planning

- Establish a consistent planning time in the daily routine.
- Provide opportunities for intentional choices throughout the day.
- Show interest in the choices and decisions children make.

Teaching strategies that support engagement

- Provide materials and activities that hold children's interest.
- Give children ample time to carry out their intentions.
- Minimize interruptions and transitions.

Teaching strategies that support problem-solving

- Encourage children to describe the problems they encounter.
- Give children time to come up with their own solutions.
- Talk with children about what is and is not working.
- Assist children who are frustrated.

Teaching strategies that support use of resources

- Provide open-ended materials and experiences that appeal to all the senses.
- Talk with children about how they use materials.
- Encourage children to use a variety of resources to answer their own questions.

Teaching strategies that support reflection

- Establish a consistent recall time in the daily routine.
- Make comments and ask questions that encourage reflection.
- Use photographs and mementos to help children remember and reflect on experiences.