

Classroom Instruction that Works (2nd Edition) Advance Organizers - Video Transcript – 4:14

Hi I'm Ceri Deen with McREL, I'm one of the authors of the 2nd Edition, Classroom Instruction that Works. We've all used or heard the expression, All Students can learn, but that isn't likely unless there is high quality instruction in every classroom every day. What does high quality instruction look like? Classroom Instruction that works answers this question by summarizing the research on instruction over the last 40 years. And presents that research in ways that helps teachers know what strategies to use and how, when and why to use them.

These strategies help students develop confidence in their ability to learn challenging content and access and build on their prior knowledge. These strategies also help students interact with knowledge on deep levels, store knowledge and memory in multiple ways, and use complex reasoning processes to make knowledge meaningful and memorable. When teachers use these strategies intentionally and with quality and fidelity to create the environment for learning to help students develop understanding and to help students extend and apply their knowledge - these strategies are powerful tools for teaching and learning.

Now, let's hear more about one of these effective strategies.

Hi I'm Elizabeth Hubble and I'm here to give you three quick tips about Advance Organizers. When many people hear the word Advance Organizers they think two things, one they often think Advanced Organizers meaning they are higher level organizers and two they think graphic organizers. I'm here to give you two quick tips about the other type's organizers teachers can use to help their students activate background knowledge and to better organize potentially confusing information.

The first type is a Narrative Advance Organizer this is using a story to engage students and activate background knowledge. So for example a kindergarten teacher might use Eric Carl's a "Very Hungry Caterpillar" as an Advance Organizer to butterfly metamorphosis. Or a high school teacher might use pictures and stories of a trip she took to Rome in order to introduce the topic of Ancient Rome.

My second tip for Advance Organizers is Expository Advance Organizer. These are factual. So a teacher might have students go to a Wikipedia article to read about a new topic they are studying or they may read the first paragraph in their text book or watch a quick brain pop movie or Discovery Education movie to activate background knowledge to familiarize themselves with new vocabulary and concepts they are going to be learning.

My third tip is to use Skimming as an Advance Organizer so students might read through and upcoming chapter and skim what's in bold or skim the headings or they may look at an interactive online and skim through that activity. Very often teachers use these fun interactives and applets toward the end of the unit almost as a cap off to the unit, many times they are much more powerful at the beginning of the unit they are usually simplistic not very high level which makes them wonderful advance organizers it gets kids engaged in the topic and talking about what they already know about the specific topic.

So in addition to graphic organizers you can also use expository, narrative, and skimming to introduce new subjects to your students and activate their background knowledge and connect what they are learning to what they already know.

I'm Elizabeth Hubble and this has been your quick tip from McREL.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ARFKDv8aUik>