

Effective Learning Approaches

Deep Processing optimizes learning... orient yourself with these ideas:

1. **Elaboration:** How does this concept/problem/question relate to others?
2. **Distinctiveness:** How is this concept/problem/question different from others?
3. **Personal:** How can I relate this to my prior knowledge, motivation, &/or personal experience?
4. **Appropriate to Retrieval & Application:** How am I expected to use or apply this?

Good study strategies make you process information at a DEEP LEVEL...

1. Generate good questions – make them meaningful! For instance, Qs based on
 - a. facts (ok but not great)
 - b. connections between ideas or facts
 - c. compare/contrast problems or processes
 - d. think about implications and significance
 - e. analyze
 - f. generate examples that tie ideas/material together
2. Draw a concept map showing nodes and links
3. Practice retrieving and using the information in the way the teacher expects
 - a. practice recall without referring to notes (out loud helps!)
 - b. practice using the information ← **HUGELY IMPORTANT IN MATH & SCIENCE!!!**

Remember, recognizing a solution is not the same as solving a problem.

Recognition → Understanding → Mastery & Application