# EVIDENCE-BASED TEACHING STRATEGY

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## ABSTRACT
*Most teachers care about their students' results, and if you are reading this article, you are undoubtedly one of them. Be supported by hard research, instead of anecdotal case studies or untested theories. Have a substantially higher effect on student results than other teaching strategies. Be able to be used on a wide range of subjects and at every year level.*

*What evidence-based teaching strategies made it onto the list? Research shows that evidence-based teaching strategies are likely to have the largest impact on student results performance. Research shows that a few of these teaching strategies, such as holding high expectations of students, have a significant positive impact on student results.*

*Do not assume that a teaching strategy is no good just because it is not in the top 10 or commonly used by teachers. That said, some popular teaching strategies do not have a large effect on student results. Once you are clear about what you want your students to know and be able to do by the end of the lesson, you need to tell them what they need to know and show them how to do the tasks you want them to be able to do.*

*Some evidence-based teaching strategies that did not make the top 10 or are commonly used by teachers are still worth adopting. However, when you explore the thousands of research studies on the topic, it is apparent that some teaching strategies have far more impact than other teaching strategies do.*

**KEYWORDS:** *Teaching Strategies, Research, Evidence-Based Teaching, Learning and Teaching*

## EVIDENCE-BASED TEACHING STRATEGY

### Evidence-Based Teaching Strategy 1: Clear Lesson Goals

You must be clear about what you want your students to learn during each lesson. Meta-cognition involves thinking about your options, your choices, and your results - and it has an even larger effect on student results than teaching strategies.

Techniques such as randomized sampling, student answer-boards, and tell-a-friend help you to check for understanding before moving on from the show and tell part of your lesson while you can use other questioning techniques at different stages of your lesson. And, just as with content, you need to tell students about these strategies, show them how to use them, and give them guided practice before asking them to use them independently.

### Evidence-Based Teaching Strategy 2: Questioning to Check for Understanding

Research suggests that teachers typically spend a large amount of teaching time asking questions. If you cannot quickly and easily state what you want your students to know and be able to do at the end of a given lesson, the goal of your lesson will be unclear.

Other evidence-based teaching strategies, such as reciprocal teaching, did not make the list purely because they can only be used within a single subject. You can increase how well your students do in any subject by explicitly teaching them how to use relevant strategies. The effect that such clarity has on student results is 32% greater than the effect of holding high expectations for

every student (and holding high expectations has a sizeable effect).

When using meta-cognition your students may think about what strategies they could use before choosing one, and they may think about how effective their choice was (after reflecting on their success or lack thereof) before continuing with or changing their chosen strategy.

### Evidence-Based Teaching Strategy 3: Get Students Working Together

Group work is not new, and you can see it in every classroom. Clear lesson goals help you (and your students) to focus every other aspect of your lesson on what matters most. From assignments and studying to characterization, there are strategies underpinning the effective execution of many tasks that you ask students to perform in school. Encouraging students to adopt strategies is important, but it is not meta-cognition.

### Evidence-Based Teaching Strategy 4: Be Flexible About How Long It Takes to Learn.

The idea that given enough time, every student can learn is not as revolutionary as it sounds. When teaching children to read you need to teach them how to attack unknown words, as well as strategies that will deepen their comprehension. Your students should be practicing what they learned during your show and tell, which in turn should reflect your lesson goal.

When teaching them mathematics, you need to teach them problem-solving strategies. Unlike praise, which focuses on the student rather than the task, feedback provides your students with a tangible understanding of what they did well, where they are at, and how they can improve.

### Evidence-Based Teaching 5: Summarize New Learning In A Graphical Way

Outlines include things such as mind maps, flow charts, and Venn diagrams. Put simply, giving feedback involves letting your students know how they have performed on a particular task along with ways that they can improve. Finally, research shows that students do

better when their teacher has them practice the same things over a spaced-out period.

For teaching strategies to be included on this list, they had to practice help students to retain the knowledge and skills that they have learned while also allowing you another opportunity to check for understanding.

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