

Test Prep & Memory Strategies

Name: _____ Date: _____

LEARNING OBJECTIVE

Students will create and test a mnemonic-based flashcard study system.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- 10 index cards
- pen or pencil
- a topic you need to memorize (vocabulary words, historical dates, science terms, etc.)

HANDS-ON ACTIVITY

1. Choose 8-10 facts or terms you need to memorize from any current subject (vocabulary, dates, formulas, etc.), and write each on its own flashcard (term on front, definition/answer on back).
2. For at least 3 of the cards, create a memory trick (a mnemonic, rhyme, silly sentence, or visual association) and write it on the card to help you remember.
3. Test yourself by going through all the cards once, sorting them into two piles: 'Knew It' and 'Need More Practice.'
4. Set the 'Need More Practice' pile aside to review again tomorrow (spaced repetition), and note on paper how many you got right on this first try.

QUESTIONS

1. What topic did you choose to study, and how many flashcards did you make?
-

2. Write one mnemonic device you created and explain how it helps you remember the fact.
-

3. How many cards landed in your 'Knew It' pile versus 'Need More Practice' on your first try?
-

4. What is 'spaced repetition,' and why is reviewing your 'Need More Practice' cards again tomorrow more effective than cramming them all tonight?
