



“Active” Study Strategies

When studying, try *RECITING*. For example:

- Describe or explain a topic aloud and in your own words.
- Teach or explain the information to someone else.
- Engage in a simulation or role-play activity.

When studying, try *WRITING*. For example:

- Make a chapter study review card (use an index card---include special vocabulary, main ideas, examples, key events and people, causes, results, etc.
- Make and use a set of flashcards (vocabulary and definitions, math problems and solutions, questions and answers, etc.).
- Make lists of related information by categories (causes, results, important events or concepts, main ideas, examples, key people, etc.) and RECITE them.
- Draw a diagram, map, sketch, or chart. Do this from memory and then check your notes or books for accuracy.
- Write questions you think will be on the test and RECITE the answers.
- Create “semantic maps” to summarize the unit (Venn diagrams, sequence chains, charts, webs, etc.).
- Create a mnemonic to remember information (such as: **My Very Educated Mother Just Showed Us Nine Planets...** used for remembering the order of the planets from the sun—Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, Pluto!)

When studying, try *VISUALIZING*. For example:

- Close your eyes and “picture in your mind” any chart, diagram, word, map, event, time period, scene, experiment, or character (from a story) that you are trying to remember. Afterwards, check your notes or books for accuracy.

Note the following:

- **Establish a study routine-** pick a place, find a time, and build a routine
- **Plan ahead and set goals-** start working on major assignments or reviewing for major tests well ahead of time and plan a strategy for finishing the assignment on time. For example: As you learn about a major unit, such as the American Revolution, take a few minutes to review daily what you learned in class. Therefore, come time of the test, you would have reviewed your information gradually, instead of waiting until the last minute to crunch all the information into one study session.

*****It’s always a good idea to write and recite AT THE SAME TIME. That’s how we train our brain!*****