



SCAFFOLDING STRATEGIES

A SIMPLE GUIDE WITH STRATEGIES FOR TEACHERS

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SCAFFOLDING what it is

Scaffolding is a teaching strategy that breaks learning into smaller, manageable parts and provides support for each part. Think of it like building a structure with temporary supports. As students learn new material, they are helped with tools like visual aids or step-by-step instructions so they can understand and master each chunk of information.

1 PRIOR KNOWLEDGE



What to Do:

- **Connect to Experiences:** Ask students to share their own experiences related to the new content.
- **Build on What They Know:** Use students' existing knowledge as a foundation for new lessons.

Why It Helps:

Connecting new information to what students already know makes the content more relatable and easier to understand.

2 VOCABULARY IN ADVANCE



What to Do:

- **Introduce Words in Context:** Use pictures, analogies, and discussions to introduce new vocabulary.
- **Interactive Learning:** Have students create symbols or drawings for each new word.

Why It Helps:

Understanding key vocabulary beforehand makes it easier for students to grasp challenging texts.

3 SHOW AND TELL



What to Do:

- **Model the Task:** Show students how to do tasks instead of just telling them.
- **Fishbowl Activity:** Have a small group perform a task while others watch and learn.
- **Think Aloud:** Share your thought process when solving a problem or reading a text.

Why It Helps:

Seeing an example makes it easier for students to understand what they need to do.

4 GIVE TIME TO TALK

What to Do:

- **Structured Discussions:** Use techniques like think-pair-share or turn-and-talk to encourage discussion.
- **Regular Integration:** Make discussion a regular part of lessons to help students process new information.

Why It Helps:

Talking about new ideas helps students articulate their understanding and learn from each other.

5 VISUAL AIDS

What to Do:

- **Graphic Organizers:** Use charts and diagrams to help students organize their thoughts and understand concepts.
- **Visual Representation:** Encourage students to use visual aids to support their learning.

Why It Helps:

Visual aids help students see relationships between ideas and organize information more effectively.

6 STRATEGIC QUESTIONING

What to Do:

- **Strategic Questioning:** Pause after sharing new information, ask a guiding question, then pause again to give students time to think.
- **Check for Understanding:** Regularly ask students to summarize or discuss what they've learned.

Why It Helps:

This strategy ensures students are following along and understanding each part of the lesson before moving on.

