Activating Prior Knowledge

Quick Write ~ Quick Draw



Take a few minutes to have students "show what they know"

Response Journals



Independent writing to make connections & reflect on learning

Turn & Talk



Turn and share ideas with a partner.

Think-Pair-Share



Think on your own ~ partner with another student to share and discuss ideas.

Brainstorming Bash



Small group brainstorming after independent think time.

Inspiration Web K - W - L Charts



Use of graphic organizers to visually map ideas

Sticky Note Connections



Write ideas or questions on sticky notes. Share & categorize as large group.

Paper Pass or Chart Carousel



Students have 1 min. to write what they know before passing paper to next student to add on.

Graffiti Wall



Students create a wall chart of what they know & add to it throughout unit.

Yes/No Cards



Students hold up cards in response to questions. Can help build interest in new topic.

Discussions



Stimulate connections through small and large group discussions.

Boxing

What do I know?

Visual explanation

How can I summarize this?

For more information on these and more strategies:

Gregory, G. & Chapman, C. 2002. Differentiated Instructional Strategies: One Size Doesn't Fit All. Corwin Press.

Best Practices: Pieces of the Puzzle - Online resource at http://www.saskschools.ca/curr content/bestpractice/