

UNDERSTANDING GENERAL TEACHING STRATEGIES

LEARNING SUPPORT ACTIVITIES • TEACHER RESOURCE

Effective teaching begins with understanding that students learn in different ways and at different rates. General teaching strategies are evidence-based instructional practices that improve learning for all students. These strategies create an inclusive classroom by reducing barriers while maintaining the same learning objectives and high expectations.

Why General Teaching Strategies Matter

High-quality instructional practices benefit every learner—not just students with identified disabilities or accommodations. Clear instruction, predictable routines, and meaningful engagement help all students succeed in the ASL classroom.

Characteristics of Effective Instruction

- Clear learning objectives
- Consistent classroom routines
- Explicit modeling and demonstrations
- Frequent opportunities for guided and independent practice
- Ongoing feedback and encouragement

What You May Notice in Successful Classrooms

- Students understand expectations.
- Lessons are organized and engaging.
- Visual supports are used consistently.
- Students actively participate in learning.
- Mistakes are viewed as opportunities to learn.

The Teacher's Role

- Build positive relationships with students.
- Create a safe and welcoming learning environment.
- Adjust instruction based on student needs.
- Encourage collaboration, curiosity, and confidence.
- Maintain high expectations while providing appropriate support.

Common Misconceptions

- Effective teaching is not 'one size fits all.'
- Providing support does not lower academic expectations.
- Students can reach the same learning goals through different instructional pathways.

★ Remember

Great teaching is intentional, flexible, and student-centered. By using research-based instructional practices, educators create classrooms where every student has the opportunity to succeed while working toward the same learning objectives.