



Examples of Executive Functioning Strategies in May School Classrooms

1. Executive Functioning Road Map/Visualization Strategies

- Use multi-sensory teaching methods consistently: Montessori materials, math manipulatives, etc..
- Follow best practices of MSL teaching: break word into word family and beginning sound to decode, explicitly teach syllable types, morphemes, etc.
- only teach and practice one spelling pattern at a time, no “theme-based” spelling lists, etc..
- Provide images of what you would like them to write about—use visual sequence cards for idea mapping
- Use mad lib sentences for syntax mapping, fill in the blanks, and sentence/paragraph frames
- Use P.E.E. to map out the structure of the paragraph
- Use simply laid out math pages, graph paper, visual organizers for word problems
- Use visual organizers for note taking and outlining
- Take a picture of the “Done” or provide a model of what done looks like
- Ask: What are the key features? Circle key features on a photograph
- Use Circle, Underline, Count, Complete for multi-step directions/assignments
- Have students draw a “future sketch” of what “done” looks like
- Use “Get Ready, Do, Done” to visually plan the sequence of action
- Use visual checklists, work strips, work plans to make explicit the sequence and structure of expectations

2. Executive Functioning Self-Talk Strategies

- Visual reminders/checklists to plan or keep track of process

- Visual emotional check in such as Mood Meter
- Visual strategies for self-monitoring of understanding, frustration level, etc..
- Frequently ask yourself and student to explain what she's doing now and what the next step will be
- I do, we do, we do, we do, we do, we do, we do, you do (individualized)
- Mindfulness practices, especially at transitions
- Provide consistent, visual and immediate behavioral feedback
- Ask child to provide feedback on how he thinks he's doing
- Teacher talk out loud to let student "eavesdrop" on your internalized language
- Use scripts that make explicit "self-talk"
- Do not send home homework that requires self-talk; instead, use class time to model how to complete work that requires multi-steps such as essays, projects, and research

3. Executive Functioning Time Management Strategies

- Visual Timers
- Working Clock
- Planner
- Sticky notes on calendar to plan out longer projects
- Time Robbers
- How long do you think this will take you?. How long did this actually take you?.

4. Executive Functioning Color-Coding Strategies

- Color to distinguish word family and beginning sound, syllables, morphemes
- Traffic Light Paragraph
- Use color to distinguish place value in math—use in all multi-step processes
- Active Reading Strategies
- Multi-sensory grammar