

Identifying Strategies in Classroom Examples

Review the lessons outlined in the viewing chart to familiarize yourself with the examples you will watch. As you watch, look for strategies the teachers use to engage students in active learning: questioning, engaging activities, authentic instruction, cooperative learning, and active presentations. List specific examples you see in each lesson.

Lesson	Active Learning Strategies
Eileen Mesmer’s class is studying a unit called Celebrations of Light, exploring what different holidays and traditions have in common.	
Diane Kerr’s class is studying state government and the role of the citizen, using flipbooks to illustrate how a bill becomes a law.	
Rob Cuddi’s students are studying the explorers in North America, working in groups to research explorers and design presentations.	
David Kitts’s students are studying historical change by comparing past and present farming practices in America.	

After you have completed your chart, review your work and answer the following questions:

1. Which strategies seemed to best promote active learning?
2. Which strategies seemed most relevant to your teaching?
3. What made these strategies effective?
4. How did the activities help students demonstrate their understanding?
5. What would you add?