

NEW FACULTY ORIENTATION
Wednesday, October 3, 2012

Ambrose, Susan A., et al. *How Learning Works: 7 Research-Based Principles for Smart Teaching*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass, 2010. Print.

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Chapter 1: How Does Students' Prior Knowledge Affect their Learning?

Describe your experience reading about prior knowledge.

Make a list of facts that you know about prior knowledge.

Imagine you are enrolled in Prior Knowledge 101. Make a list of the challenges or obstacles you might face while learning in that course.

Strategies to Reveal and Enhance Knowledge Organizations

1. Create a concept map to analyze your own knowledge organization
2. Analyze tasks to identify the most appropriate knowledge organization
3. Provide students with the organizational structure of the course
4. Explicitly share the organization of each lecture, lab, or discussion
5. Use contrasting and boundary cases to highlight organizing features
6. Explicitly highlight deep features
7. Make connections among concepts explicit
8. Encourage students to work with multiple organizing structures
9. Ask students to draw a concept map to expose their knowledge organizations
10. Use a sorting task to expose students' knowledge organizations
11. Monitor students' work for problems in their knowledge organization