

Study Strategies

In order to do your best in school, in using PASS courses, and on the standardized tests that are so important for admission to college, it is important that you learn how to make the most of your time spent studying. You can gain confidence and improve your performance in these areas through the use of the following strategies:

Study Smart:

- **Find a good place to study.** It doesn't matter where, as long as it's well lit and comfortable, with a surface for writing. It's good to have one place to study regularly, a place that's equipped with paper, pencils, calculator, dictionary, and thesaurus.
- **Get started.** Getting started on studying is usually the hardest part. Don't wait until you're "in the mood" or "feel inspired." Just sit down and get started. It's easier to get started if you begin with something easy or something you like.
- **Know your learning style.** We all learn differently. Some students learn best by seeing the material (visual learners), some learn best from hearing information (auditory learners), and some learn best by doing (kinesthetic learners.)
- **Make the most of your study time.** Make a plan. Decide exactly what needs to get done and the order in which to do it. Know when and how to take breaks. Do memorization work first, then review at the end of the session.
- **Know how to study for tests.** Know what the test is going to cover so you'll study the right things. Review is the key to learning anything because it moves information from your short-term memory into your long-term memory.
- **Use tricks to help you memorize information.** Use study cards or flash cards to memorize vocabulary words, facts, and lists. Right before going to sleep at night, go over any information you want to remember. Use rhyming or rhythm to help memorize. Make up acronyms or a silly sentence to help in remembering the first letters of words in a list.
- **Take writing skills seriously.** Learning to write well is done through practice. It plays an important role in many tests, as well as successfully applying for college admission, scholarships, and employment.