

Instructional Strategies

Elementary School Aspirations Quadrants

Strategies to Support Aspirations

The teacher-generated strategies below support students on their Aspirations journeys. Remember that the quadrants are fluid—a student may appear to be in Hibernation at one point during a class or semester, yet Aspiration at another time.

IMAGINATION	ASPIRATION
 Set short-term and long-term <u>SMART</u> goals Help students <u>categorize</u>, determine <u>fantasy versus</u> <u>realism</u>, and distinguish <u>fact versus opinion</u> Provide time for students to <u>draw</u>, <u>build</u>, create AND connect it all to lessons Use <u>rubrics</u> to help students understand what they need to learn to succeed Celebrate students' <u>effort</u> and incremental successes Share <u>stories</u> of how young people make dreams a reality Model strategies for organizing work and breaking down assignments in order to meet deadlines Involve students in <u>hands-on</u> learning Incorporate <u>technology</u> in lessons Teach students about <u>metaphors</u> Apply skills students are learning to <u>real-life</u> problems 	 Incorporate metacognitive activities and strategies Assign students responsibilities for peer teaching Help students develop their public speaking and presentation skills Assist students with publishing their writing, art work, websites, etc. Encourage students to enter academic contests Develop students' problem-solving skills Seek out school-wide leadership opportunities and discuss what makes a leader Ensure students in service learning
HIBERNATION	PERSPIRATION
 Utilize culturally relevant strategies Use project-based learning Use students' names, interests, and prior knowledge Build relationships with students Ensure assignments are appropriately challenging—not too easy or too hard Chunk work to make it less overwhelming Set up achievable <u>short-term goals</u> (hourly, daily, weekly) with students Provide choice in assignments Foster peer support Re-evaluate the <u>setup</u> of your classroom Use <u>gaming</u> strategies Include student-selected topics of study Provide guided <u>notetaking</u> templates Take real and <u>virtual</u> field trips 	 Encourage students to sketch/doodle/journal Clearly state the purpose of lessons and units of study Teach and provide time for student reflection Ensure homework has a clear purpose Take brain breaks with your students Verbally reward effort and hard work Support and encourage divergent thinkers Engage in improv games Ask students to articulate the purpose of a lesson/subject Include student-led projects Provide non-graded assignments Use collaborative learning Utilize vision boards Fuel divergent thinking