



Learning Style Characteristics and Tutoring Tips



Auditory Learners

An Auditory Learner:

- Acquire knowledge by reading aloud.
- Likes to talk and discuss things.
- Prefers oral reading.
- Hum or talk to themselves when bored.
- Easily distracted and finds sounds distracting.
- Moves lips when reading.
- Identifies sounds related to an experience.
- Remembers by verbalizing lessons to themselves.

Learning Strengths

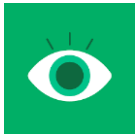
- ✓ Remembers what they hear and say.
- ✓ Can recall information after hearing it a few times.
- ✓ Can remember oral instructions well.
- ✓ Understands information best when they hear it.

Tutoring Tips

- Provide plenty of opportunity for listening exercises.
- Record spelling words.
- Give oral explanations.
- Discuss concepts and ideas.
- Use a Show & Tell strategy.
- Use verbal games.
- Encourage learner to read and spell out loud.
- Use paired or duet reading strategies.
- Discuss the story/article before asking learner to read it.
- Repeat key points.

Strategies for Learning

- ❖ If you want to remember something, say it out loud several times.
- ❖ Ask your tutor if you can complete an assignment using an oral presentation or in a recording.
- ❖ Make your own recordings of things you want to remember. Listen to them repeatedly.
- ❖ When you read, start off by talking about the passage. Talk about the pictures, story title and other clues. Say out loud what you think the passage is about.
- ❖ Make flash cards for what you want to learn. Read them out loud.
- ❖ Read out loud when possible. You need to hear the words as you read them to understand them well.



Visual Learners

A Visual Learner:

- Takes numerous detailed notes.
- Recalls images they have seen and notices details.
- Prefers things to be neat and organized.
- Has good proofreading skills.
- Benefits from illustrations and presentations that use colour.
- Would rather read than be read to.
- Needs visual aids.
- Finds making lists helpful.
- Often close their eyes to visualize something.

Learning Strengths

- ✓ Remembers what they read and write.
- ✓ Enjoys visual projects and presentations.
- ✓ Can remember diagrams, charts, and maps well.
- ✓ Understands information best when they see it.

Tutoring Tips

- Teach Sight Words.
- Use pictures and diagrams.
- Use written instructions.
- Have learners visualize words for spelling.
- Have learners memorize information in a logical sequence that can be visualized.

- Use flashcards.
- Use highlighters for important information.
- Use matching games.

Strategies for Learning

- ❖ Try to work in a quiet place. Wear ear plugs if you must.
- ❖ Most visual learners learn best when alone.
- ❖ Ask your tutor to repeat something if you didn't understand it.
- ❖ Use different colours to highlight main ideas. This will help you remember them.
- ❖ Before reading a passage, look at the title and pictures.
- ❖ Write your own flash cards. Look at them often and check them again.
- ❖ Use visual aids or videos to help you learn something new.



Tactile and Kinesthetic Learners

A Tactile or Kinesthetic Learner:

- Learns by doing and likes to use their hands.
- Enjoys field trips and tasks that involve manipulating materials.
- Needs to move to process information.
- Has a short attention span and needs to be active and take frequent breaks.
- Finds reasons to tinker or move when bored.
- Notices differences in the shapes and textures of things they touch.
- Likes to take things apart and put them back together.
- Enjoys activities such as, cooking, sports, construction, engineering, playing an instrument.
- Recalls words after writing or typing them a few times.

Learning Strengths

- ✓ Enjoys using tools.
- ✓ Enjoys lessons that involve active/practical participation.
- ✓ Can remember how to do things after they've done them once (motor memory).
- ✓ Has good motor coordination.
- ✓ Remembers what they do.
- ✓ Remembers what they experience with their hands and bodies through movement and touch.

Tutoring Tips – Tactile learner

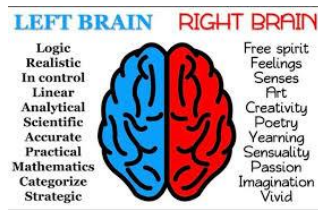
- Allow learners to feel what they have to do by manipulating objects.
- Use scrapbooks, colouring books and workbooks.
- Allow for artistic creations.
- Include blackboard /whiteboard activities.
- Use letters made from sandpaper and/or felt.
- Use games and puzzles.
- Make collections, displays, or collages.

Tutoring Tips – Kinesthetic learner

- Have learners use a computer or tablet to type answers.
- Use puzzles & games.
- Tap out syllables.
- Use role-playing.
- Allow for frequent breaks.
- Use three-dimensional objects.
- Make a video.
- Be specific when you give directions.
- Let the learner doodle or fiddle with an object when listening.
- Vary activities.

Strategies for Learning

- ❖ To memorize something, walk around while you say it to yourself over and over. You can also use flash cards or notes while you are walking around.
- ❖ When you read a short story or chapter in a book, try a whole-to-part approach. Look at the whole thing first. Then look at the smaller parts. Try to get a feel for the book. – First look through the pictures. – Then read the headings. – Then read the first and last paragraphs of the story or chapter.
- ❖ If you need to fidget, try jiggling your legs or feet. You could do some hand and finger exercises. Or you could handle a tennis ball or something like that.
- ❖ Use your favourite colour to surround the area where you work (colour grounding).
- ❖ Try reading through coloured transparencies to help focus your attention.
- ❖ When you memorize information, try closing your eyes and writing the information in the air or on something with your finger. Try to picture the words in your head as you are doing this.



Right Brain and Left Brain Learning

Characteristics

Left Brain/Analytical	Right Brain/Global
Is logical	Is random
Is sequential	Is intuitive
Analyses people and situations	Synthesizes information
Likes verbal instruction	Likes instructions to be demonstrated
Requires plan and structure	Is spontaneous and flexible
Likes to see the steps and details before the big picture	Likes to see the big picture then go to details
Focuses on facts and details	Likes summaries and overviews
Needs time for personal reflections	Likes working with others
Likes schedules and rules	Is creative

Tutoring tips

Left Brain/Analytical	Right Brain/Global
Use rules to teach spelling, phonics.	Use paired reading.
Use outlines and lists.	Create dioramas and other objects.
Study difficult words before reading.	Read first, then study words afterwards.
Dictate sentences to encourage writing.	Use free writing and journaling.