INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES




# Sketchnotes

Sketchnotes provide a way for students to be engaged actively while taking notes or summarizing presentations. These visual notes include drawings, words, lines, shapes, and other creative elements.

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# SKETCHNOTES

## Summary

Sketchnotes is a strategy that can be used during lectures, videos, or any presentation where students are sitting and listening. This is meant to be personal to the creator and a combination of visual and linguistic elements. Research shows that students who connect ideas and knowledge to visual elements increase learning and are actively engaged (Fiorella and Mayer 2015, Wu and Rau 2019). As students listen to the information, they visualize it in their minds and then draw and take notes on the big ideas.

## Procedure

1. Provide students with a blank sheet of paper or notebook paper.
2. Instruct students to take visual notes while they are listening to the lecture, video, or presentation. (Students do not need to be artists to create visual notes.) Let them know that they should focus on the main ideas, new knowledge, and key information only. They do not want to record the whole presentation, just the important information.
3. Encourage them to sketch and take notes of what they are learning during the activity, using a number of designs (ex: lines, shapes, dots, handwriting, arrows, diagrams, images, etc.) in their notes. Encourage them to be creative and make the notes their own.
4. Once students have completed their notes, encourage them to take some time to look over their notes and add embellishments or clarify ideas.

What are sketchnotes? Rohdesign. (n.d.). Retrieved January 26, 2023, from https://rohdesign.com/sketchnotes Wu, S. P., & Rau, M. A. (2019). How students learn content in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) through drawing activities. Educational Psychology Review, 31, 87-120.