



PINPOINT



Traditional settings focus on how many answers a student knows. When we teach for the Habits of Mind, we are interested also in how students behave when they don't know an answer.

Art Costa

Dispositions

Dispositions are the attributes of intelligent thinking behaviours that are the indicators for academic and vocational success.

Habits of Mind

Art Costa's Habits of Mind framework focuses attention on the processes and strategies that students' minds need to engage with for effective learning to occur. But this can't happen easily in an environment of passive learning. Students need to be emotionally engaged through meaningful, real-life learning.

<p>01 PERSISTING. STICK TO IT.</p> <p>Efficacious people stick to a task until it is completed. Students often give up when they don't immediately know the answer to a problem.</p>	<p>02 COMMUNICATING WITH CLARITY AND PRECISION. BE CLEAR.</p> <p>Enriching the complexity and specificity of language simultaneously produces effective thinking. We sometimes hear students and adults using vague and imprecise language.</p>	<p>03 MANAGING IMPULSIVITY. TAKE YOUR TIME.</p> <p>Effective problem solvers are deliberate: they think before they act. Often, students blurt out the first answer that comes to mind.</p>	<p>04 GATHERING DATA THROUGH SENSES. USE YOUR NATURAL PATHWAYS.</p> <p>Intelligent people know that all information gets into the brain through sensory pathways. Some students are oblivious to the textures, rhythms, colors patterns, and sounds, around them.</p>
<p>05 LISTENING WITH UNDERSTANDING AND EMPATHY. UNDERSTAND OTHERS.</p> <p>Highly effective people spend time and energy listening. We want students to devote their mental energies to another person and to invest themselves in their partner's ideas.</p>	<p>06 CREATING, IMAGINING, INNOVATING. TRY A DIFFERENT WAY.</p> <p>Creative human beings try to conceive solutions to problems differently, examining alternative possibilities. Students, however, often are heard saying "I can't...".</p>	<p>07 THINKING FLEXIBLY. LOOK AT IT ANOTHER WAY.</p> <p>Flexible people can address a problem from a new angle using a novel approach. Some students have trouble considering alternative points of view or dealing with more than one classification.</p>	<p>08 RESPONDING WITH WONDERMENT AND AWE. HAVE FUN FIGURING IT OUT.</p> <p>Efficacious people have not only an "I can" attitude but also an "I enjoy" feeling. We want students to be curious, to commune with the world around them.</p>
<p>09 THINKING ABOUT YOUR THINKING. KNOW YOUR KNOWING</p> <p>What distinguishes humans from other forms of life is our capacity for metacognition. We want students to perform well on complex cognitive tasks.</p>	<p>10 TAKING RESPONSIBLE RISKS. VENTURE OUT.</p> <p>Responsible risk takers do not behave impulsively. Their risks are educated. We hope that students will learn how to take intellectual as well as physical risks.</p>	<p>11 STRIVING FOR ACCURACY AND PRECISION. FIND THE BEST SOLUTION.</p> <p>People who value truthfulness, accuracy, precision, and craftsmanship take time to check over their products. Some students may turn in sloppy, incomplete, or uncorrected work.</p>	<p>12 FINDING HUMOUR. LAUGH A LITTLE.</p> <p>Having a whimsical frame of mind, helps you thrive on finding incongruity. Some students find humor in all the wrong places.</p>
<p>13 QUESTIONING AND PROBLEM POSING. HOW DO YOU KNOW?</p> <p>Effective questioners are inclined to ask a range of questions. Some students may be unaware of the functions, classes, syntax, or intentions in questions.</p>	<p>14 THINKING INTERDEPENDENTLY. LEARNING WITH OTHERS.</p> <p>Collaborative humans realize that all of us together are more powerful, intellectually or physically, than any one individual. Some students cannot easily work in groups.</p>	<p>15 APPLYING PAST KNOWLEDGE TO NEW SITUATIONS. USE WHAT YOU LEARN.</p> <p>Intelligent humans learn from experience. Too often, students begin each new task as if it were being approached for the first time.</p>	<p>16 REMAINING OPEN TO CONTINUOUS LEARNING. LEARN FROM EXPERIENCES.</p> <p>Intelligent people are in a continuous learning mode. Our wish is for creative students and people who are eager to learn.</p>