

# What's news?

November, 2007

## Tri-County Secondary Programs

### Memory Strategies-

What is the capacity for remembering directions?  
(about 3)

### CHUNKING

- Grouping by 3's and 4's
- Draw a line
- Work folder
- Pass out sections at a time
- Use white space to separate
- Group items by category

### MNEMONICS AND ACROSTICS

#### - HOMES

- Every good boy deserves fudge
- Memorizing Places (S. American map)
- Sequencing events (Curvy line)
- Behavior reminders (RESPECT)

R = Respond using appropriate words  
E = Express ideas at appropriate times  
S = Speak in an appropriate tone of voice  
P = Politely use a clear indoor volume  
E = Exhibits good body language  
C = Comply with staff requests  
T = Timely compliance within 10 seconds

### LINKING STRATEGIES

- Linking one idea to another to create a memory chain
- The path around the roadblock
- Vocabulary links (Vocabulary cartoons)
- Flash cards with a twist

We remember best the first and last thing we study so... Study during commercials on TV. There is a commercial at least every 6.5 minutes. You get a first and last every 6.5 minutes. If you study for 30 minutes you get just one first and one last.

### Visualization

- Creating a mental image
- Using mental links to create a chain of pictures (mental links)
- Rules:
  - o Make the image BIG
  - o Make the image weird
  - o Make the image move
  - o Add details
  - o Using dots to chunk reading

### Associative techniques

- Using location "loci technique"
- Rhyming
- Charades
- Internal scripting
- Think out loud- modeling

### Color Coding

- Color enhances memory (Zentall et.al.)
  - o color code using high-lighters
  - o colored paper
  - o colored 3X5 cards
  - o highlighting tape
  - o reusable dry highlighters
  - o Post-it-notes
- Color visuals increase willingness to read by up to 80%\*
- Color improved retention by more than 75%\*
- Color can increase motivation and participation by up to 80%\*

\*Source: [www.3m.com/meetingnetwork/](http://www.3m.com/meetingnetwork/)

Give Connie O'markhail a pat on the back she is doing very good work at PMS.

**Things to remember this month...**

Not all accommodations and modifications should be alike. Personalize for the students you have.

This office is trying to acquire and keep a correct list of all students in secondary programs, all teachers and para staff. In addition we are keeping track of open positions. Please help us by sending information as it comes to you.

Please send me suggestions as to what you would like to see addressed in this little information page.

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I'm all ears waiting to hear from you! Margo