

## Executive Functions (Part 2): Strategies to Improve Students' Academic Performance

Use this outline to follow along with the module's main features. The blank "Notes" panels below each section are interactive and can be filled in using Adobe Acrobat. Otherwise, print this document and record your notes by hand.

### Module Home

- **Module Description:** This companion to the Executive Functions (Part 1) module reiterates the importance of teachers providing explicit instruction to students with executive function deficits on the use of effective strategies. It then overviews a number of these strategies: graphic organizers, note-taking, mnemonics, organizing materials, time management, comprehension strategies, and self-regulation strategies (est. completion time: 2.5 hours).
- *STAR Legacy Cycle*
- **Related to This Module**
  - [Link: Module Outline](#)
  - [Video: Navigating an IRIS STAR Legacy Module](#)
  - [Link: IRIS and Adult Learning Theory](#)
  - [Wrap-Around Content Map](#)

### Challenge

- **Video:** Like every week, there's always so much to think and write about for these reflections in my master's class, but today I want to focus on something new, a challenge that's really got me rethinking some of the things I've been doing in my classroom. It involves helping my students to improve their study skills.

Notes

### Initial Thoughts

- Is it the responsibility of teachers to teach study skills strategies? Explain your response.
- Which study skills strategies can improve students' academic performance?

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Notes

### Perspectives and Resources

#### ❖ Module Objectives

- After completing the entire Perspectives & Resources section and reviewing the accompanying activities, you should:
  - Understand that students with learning difficulties might need to be explicitly taught study skills strategies
  - Recognize that there are different types of study skills that can aid students in learning
- This IRIS Module aligns with the following licensure and program standards and topic areas...

Notes

#### ❖ Page 1: Introduction to Study Skills

- Definition: executive functions
- Today, an increasing number of students with disabilities are receiving instruction in the general education classroom...
- Did You Know?
- Profile: Erin
- Profile: Kyra



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- Student Profiles[drop-down menus]
  - Hannah
  - Erin
  - Kyra
- Table: Strategies to address problems students might experience with four critical learning activities
- Link: To learn more, view the IRIS Module Study Skills Strategies (Part 1): Foundations for Effectively Teaching Study Skills

Notes

### ❖ Page 2: Graphic Organizers

- Definition graphic organizers
- These tools allow students to...
- Audio: Douglas Dexter describes three reasons that graphic organizers are effective
- Research Shows
- Purpose and Types of Graphic Organizers [drop-down menus]
  - Cause and effect
    - Cause-and-effect chain
    - Problem and solution map
    - Fishbone diagram
  - Classifying
    - Web
    - Classification table
  - Comparing and Contrasting
    - Venn diagram
    - Compare-contrast matrix
  - Describing
    - Word web
    - Frayer Model
    - Semantic map



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- Sequencing
  - Flowchart
  - Series of events chain
  - Cycle
  - Timeline
- Audio: Douglas Dexter stresses the importance of using the same graphic organizer for similar tasks
- Tip
- Activity: Select a graphic organizer to compare and contrast the information in those chosen by the three students
  - Link: Feedback

Notes

### ❖ Page 3: Comprehension Strategies

- Quotation
- Link: Metacognitive Awareness of Reading Strategies Inventory (MARSII)
- Table: The students' use of the MARSII strategy
- Research Shows
- Definition: self-questioning
- Evidence-based reading strategies [drop-down menus]
  - Activate prior knowledge
  - Question generation
  - Monitor comprehension
  - Identifying the main idea
  - Paraphrasing
  - Summarizing
- Audio: Don Deshler discusses some of the things teachers should consider when they teach reading strategies



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- Tip
- Link: To learn more, view the IRIS Module Secondary Reading Instruction: Teaching Vocabulary and Comprehension in the Content Areas

Notes

#### Page 4: Mnemonics

- Definition: mnemonic strategies
- Research Shows
- Audio: Robert Reid offers suggestions for teachers who want to use mnemonic strategies
- Some mnemonic strategies [drop-down menus]
  - Keyword method
  - Pegword method
  - First letter strategies
- Audio: Mary Anne Prater explains how teachers can easily incorporate these methods into their instruction
- For Your Information
- Tip
- Activity: Help Ms. Fleming's students develop a mnemonic
  - Link: Feedback

Notes

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### ❖ Page 5: Note-taking

- Note-taking helps students to...
- Did You Know?
- Audio: Joseph Boyle discusses the importance of teaching note-taking skills
- Research Shows
- Skills Needed for Note-Taking
- Audio: Mary Anne Prater offers insight into why students with LD and other high-incident disabilities struggle with taking notes
- Table: Note-Taking Strategies
  - Link: Guided Notes
  - Link: Strategic Note-Taking
  - Link: AWARE
  - Link: Columnar Formats
- Note-Taking While Reading: General Tips
- Note-Taking During Lectures: General Tips
- Teachers can make simple adjustments to their lectures...
  - Cueing
  - Pacing
  - Allowing time for review
- For Your Information
- Tip
- Activity: Help Erin with her note-taking strategy
  - Audio: Erin describes her note-taking strategy

Notes

### ❖ Page 6: Materials Organization

- Some students struggle with organizational skills
- Audio: Erin talks about her issues with organization and turning in homework
- Teachers might create a strategy for...
  - Link: BAND method
- Research Shows



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- Tip
- Activity: Develop a mnemonic to help the student improve their organizational strategies

Notes

### ❖ Page 7: Time Management

- Some students struggle with time management
- Audio: Hannah talks about how she manages her time
- Audio: Erin talks about how she manages her time
- Teachers can help their students by teaching them to...
  - Link: Estimate Time
  - Link: Schedule Time
  - Link: Monitor Schedule
- Research Shows
- Tip

Notes

### ❖ Page 8: Self-Regulation

- Quotation
- The importance of teaching self-regulation
- Self-Regulation Strategies [drop-down menus]
  - Self-monitoring

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- Link: Self-monitoring checklists
- Link: Self-monitoring sheet
- Link: Self-monitoring log
- Self-instruction
- Goal-setting
- Self-reinforcement
- How Erin, Kyra, and Hannah respond to self-regulation strategies
- Audio: Karen Harris talks about the importance of self-regulation
- Audio: Mary Anne Prater talks about the importance of self-regulation
- Research Shows
- Tip
- Link: To learn more, view the IRIS Module SRSD: Using Learning Strategies To Enhance Student Learning

Notes

### ❖ Page 9: References & Additional Resources

- Suggested module citation
- References
- Additional Resources

### ❖ Page 10: Credits

- Suggested module citation
- Content Expert
- Content Contributor
- Module Developer
- Module Production Team
- Media
- Expert Interviews





## Executive Functions (Part 2): Strategies to Improve Students' Academic Performance

### Wrap Up

- One reason that these students struggle is because they have deficits in executive functions...
- Table: Examples of study skills strategies
- Quotation: Erin
- Revisit your Initial Thoughts responses

Notes

### Assessment

- Complete the numbered questions. Please note that the IRIS Center does not collect your Assessment responses. If this is a course assignment, you should turn them in to your professor using whatever method he or she requires.

Notes

## Executive Functions (Part 2): Strategies to Improve Students' Academic Performance

Notes

### ❖ You Have Completed This Module

- Give Us Your Feedback
  - Link: [Module feedback survey form](#)
- Professional Development Hours
  - Link: [IRIS PD Options](#)
- Related Resources [[links](#)]