

TOP 10 Ways to Help Struggling Learners

1. **Build Relationships** - Your students will be more likely to take risks and make mistakes if they trust you and know that you truly care about them.
2. **Listen & Be Patient** - If you ask your students a question, give them "think time." If needed, rephrase your question. Don't just hear what they say...*listen*.
3. **Mistakes are Proof You're Trying** - First, teach students that it's okay to make mistakes. Then, teach them how to learn from their mistakes.
4. **Meet Them Where They Are** - Let them feel success. A defeated child is hard to teach. Build off of their strengths and then go from there.
5. **Tricks of the Trade** - Give your students the tools they need to be successful. This includes teaching a variety of strategies and giving students access to hands-on tools, resources, and manipulatives.
6. **Take Notes** - Formatively assess your children constantly. Take notes from pre-assessments, number talks, student discussions, and activities. Use what you see and hear to help you pull small groups for instruction. Don't overthink it.
7. **Relate Math to Their World** - Helping your students see how math is relevant to their world and allowing them to make connections makes what they are learning more meaningful and memorable.
8. **Differentiate** - Changing the types of questions you ask and/or the materials you use are two easy ways to differentiate for your students. Differentiation isn't just for the struggling learner (all of your students will benefit).
9. **Let Them Talk** - Give your students a chance to turn and talk to each other, lead discussions, and work together. Kid talk is powerful. Fight the urge to interrupt. Sit back and enjoy the show. You will be surprised how much your kids teach you.
10. **Be Thoughtful** - Be purposeful with your planning and questioning but be flexible in knowing when to change your plans and work "on the fly."

Show What You Know

Concept/Standard:

Problem for Students Need to Solve:



Where Do I Go from Here: Tasks, Small Group Focus, and/or Mini-Lesson



Made to Measure choice board

Name _____

<p>Choice 1: Longer</p> <p>Find at least 5 objects in the classroom that are longer than 10 unifix cubes. Record the name of each object and tell how many unifix cubes long it is. What did you notice about these objects?</p>	<p>Choice 2: Shortest to Longest</p> <p>Use a crayon, a pencil, and a pair of scissors. Put them in order from shortest to longest. Draw and label your findings. Collect 3-5 more objects. Put them in order from shortest to longest. Record your findings.</p>	<p>Center 3: Sizing Up Shoes</p> <p>Trace an outline of your shoe and cut it out. Measure the length of your shoe using unifix cubes. Then measure the length of Shaq's shoe. Record your findings. What do you notice?</p>
<p>Choice 4: Measuring Penny's World</p> <p>Create your own Penny. Measure her height and width using large paperclips, small paperclips, unifix cubes, and small cubes. Record your findings.</p>	<p>Center 5: Scoop and Stack</p> <p>Grab a handful of cubes, stack them, then count them. Repeat two more times, so that you have three stacks. Order them from tallest to shortest. Record your findings.</p>	<p>Center 6: Shorter</p> <p>Find at least 5 objects in the classroom that are shorter than 5 unifix cubes. Record the name of each object and tell how many unifix cubes long it is. What did you notice about these objects.</p>
<p>Center 7: Measure Mrs. F.</p> <p>Use the cutout to measure Mrs. F. using paperclips. Record your findings on your recording sheet. What do you think would happen if you measured Mr. Garner? Would you need more, less, or the same number of paperclips?</p>	<p>Center 8: Inching Along</p> <p>Using the inchworms, measure a stapler, pencil, math journal, ruler, and marker. Record your findings. Then, measure those items with a ruler using inches. What do you notice?</p>	<p>Center 9: You Choose</p> <p>Pick ten objects in the room to measure using the nonstandard unit of your choice. Make sure you let Mrs. F. know the unit you are going to use before you get started. Record your findings.</p>