

## **Focused Listing**

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In the strategy, Focused Listing, students recall ideas and experiences related to a topic they encountered from previous learning. Students list as many concepts, facts and ideas as they can remember from previous instruction. This strategy activates thinking and improves the ability to recall information and experiences. It helps students avoid the common complaint of “we already learned how to do this” by recognizing that teaching and learning require revisiting previous concepts and experiences in order to build a deeper understanding.

### **How to implement the strategy:**

1. Select a topic that is important to your unit. Make sure it is not too narrow or too broad.
2. Have students write the word or phrase at the top of a sheet of paper and list as many terms, facts, ideas, concepts, definitions, or experiences as they can remember. Students can also work in small group to develop collective lists.
3. Examine the lists or have small groups post their charts.
4. Look for similarities, noting what students readily recall and whether the ones that are critical to learning are missing.

### **Adapted from**

- Keeley, Page (2008). *Science formative assessment: 75 practical strategies for linking assessment, instruction, and learning*. Thousand Oaks, CA. Corwin.