

Activating Strategy Rubric

Criteria/Rating	No Evidence	In Progress	Greatest Impact
Selection of Strategy Students learn better when they know where they are going and have linked this information to prior knowledge or past experiences.	There is no Activating Strategy planned to link to prior knowledge or build background knowledge. The teacher has no plans in place for previewing vocabulary. If there is an Activating Strategy planned, it does not relate to the current lesson.	The Activating Strategy either activates prior knowledge or builds background knowledge. The Activating Strategy is connected to the Lesson Essential Question or to the lesson topic. The teacher previews key vocabulary, but the strategy may not be research-based.	The teacher demonstrates a clear understanding of the purpose of an Activating Strategy and selects an appropriate strategy to activate prior knowledge and build background knowledge. The Activating Strategy makes a strong connection to the Lesson Essential Question and naturally serves as an Advance Organizer for the content of the lesson. The teacher utilizes research-based strategies to preview key vocabulary.
Time Management Allocate time for Activating Strategies at the beginning of the lesson.	If an Activating Strategy is used at all, the teacher uses either almost no time (0 – 5%) or far too much time (20+%) of the total lesson instructional time.	The teacher allocates 5% - 10% of the lesson instructional time for the Activating Strategy. Time is spent efficiently and effectively.	The teacher allocates 5% - 10% of instruction time at the beginning of the lesson for the Activating Strategy, with time spent efficiently and effectively. The teacher “reactivates” student thinking about the lesson topic on subsequent days of the lesson.
Student Motivation A key factor of student engagement is to develop activities that link to prior knowledge.	Students actively participating are selected at random or on a volunteer basis only.	All students are motivated and actively engaged during most of the time allocated for the Activating Strategy.	Through discussion, questioning <u>and</u> the use of Graphic Organizers or other Activating Strategies, <u>all</u> students are motivated and actively engaged.
Vocabulary Preview	There is no preview of key vocabulary.	Vocabulary is presented with a visual representation, but may lack organization or grouping.	Key vocabulary is introduced prior to the lesson using a research-based vocabulary strategy that engages students in word study. The classroom is organized in a way that connects vocabulary relationships.