



How to be a Good Learner

Firstly, a good learner is:

- An active listener
- Willing to voice their opinions
- Questioning
- Open minded
- Positive
- Enthusiastic
- Determined
- Adaptable
- Shows initiative
- Prepared to learn from their mistakes
- An avid reader
-

A good learner must also know what to do when they are finding something difficult. Below are some tips which should help you in that situation.

- 1. Highlight the key points of the question, text, or task.
- 2. Take a guess.
- 3. Research the topic further – using recommended books, websites etc.
- 4. Play around with your ideas – keep trying!
- 5. Take a break – have something to eat or drink, take some exercise.
- 6. Ask for help – from a friend, family member or teacher.

A good learner is also aware of which type of learner they are, and which strategies work best for them. This really helps when it comes to revising effectively. The table and information below provides more information on learning styles.

1. The more you DO with the information you have to learn the more you will understand and remember it.
2. Focus on the methods listed under your preferred learning style.
3. However, remember that it is important to use a variety of approaches – V, A and K.
4. Ask your teacher for help if necessary e.g. to recommend suitable websites, to explain something once more, for a missing worksheet. **Be proactive with your learning.**

<u>Visual learner</u>	<u>Auditory Learner</u>	<u>Kinaesthetic Learner</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make spider-diagrams and mind maps. • Write key information on Post-It notes. ☐ • Draw diagrams. ☐ • Label appropriate pictures. ☐ • Display these revision aids around your house e.g. around the bathroom mirror, on the cereal box. ☐ Visualise your revision aids. • Watch a demonstration (you could work with a friend here). • Watch a relevant video. • Put the information into a PowerPoint presentation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Record key points (try saying each one twice) and then listen to that recording many times. You could chant along with it! • Read/Explain things to yourself out loud. ☐ Work with a friend and read/explain things to each other. ☐ • Debate the information with a friend. ☐ • Fit key facts to a memorable tune (think how easy it is to remember some song lyrics). ☐ • Audio interviews on the Internet may be helpful. • Try http://www.bbc.co.uk/bbcfour/interviews/ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ☐ Walk about while reading or listening. ☐ • Make a set of revision cards – each one featuring a few bulletpoints. ☐ • Make models. ☐ • Visit relevant places e.g. exhibitions, places of worship, noteworthy geographical features. • Make and play games e.g. Pick A Pair and Snap (good for learning technical terms and their meanings). • Tutor a friend. ☐ • Use revision websites that have quizzes and other activities. Try http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/revision/