

Learning Characteristics for Active and Interactive Learners

Developmentally responsive teachers invest time in observing their students individually and collectively. Knowing what students are capable of doing provides direction for how to nurture students and support their needs. You may notice some of these developmental characteristics as you observe your students.

Developmental Characteristics	
K-2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Need a great deal of adult approval● Are very social and enjoy working and playing in groups● Dislike taking risks and making mistakes
3-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Enjoy socializing and working in groups● Are individualistic and competitive● Work well in groups
6-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Are very social with peers and can be heavy users of social media● May try on different personalities as their adult personalities begin to emerge● Pay attention to peers, who mirror what's in and what's out

Prepare for Success

Use the tips below to set up and facilitate active and interactive learning.

- Set goals and norms
- Teach and use a signal for quiet attention
- Give clear directions
- Provide time limits
- Have materials ready

For more information, read [Deepen Student Connection with Interactive Learning Structures](#).

