Coach for active learning:
high school

One crucial element to student success in a virtual school environment is an active-learner mindset.

Students actively learn by self-assessing their understanding as they complete each lesson.

New Concepts

- Students should summarize new concepts with a note-taking format.
  - Organizing content with a note-taking format leads to a deeper level and increases the learner's level of understanding.
  - Contact a teacher for suggestions or complete a search on the Internet for note-taking formats. Also, view Taking Noteworthy Notes in the English/Language Arts tab within the Instructional Support category on Learning Coach Central.
- If the student does not understand a new concept, they can:
  - Contact the teacher
  - Reread the content or repeat parts of the lesson leading up to the new concept
  - Explore the topic further using another instructional tool found in Connexus®

Vocabulary

- Students should define the key vocabulary words.
  - In many courses, a glossary is available in the yellow backpack at the bottom of each lesson slide.
  - A list of the vocabulary words can be printed as reference.
- Students should refer to the definitions while reading the lesson material to clarify the meaning of the content.
- Students should add the word and meaning to their lesson notes.
- After the lesson is being completed, the student should determine if they understand the lesson content and new vocabulary in context.

Assessments

- In many lessons, questions are followed by a "Show Answer" button.
  - Students should answer the questions independently.
  - Then check their response by viewing the answer.
  - Students should then add the questions and corresponding answers to their notes.
- For math courses, students should read the lesson, watch the tutorials, complete the practice problems, and self-check his or her answers.
- If your student has difficulty completing the practice problems correctly, they should contact the teacher or use another instructional resource (e.g., Khan Academy).

continued

- There are other opportunities throughout lessons to respond to questions and self-check answers. Worksheets, section review questions, and concept maps are found in many lessons with completed versions found at the end of lessons.
- Completed versions can also be used as study guides in preparation for a quiz or test.
- Your student should evaluate his or her own work as much as possible before submitting it to a teacher.
- Portfolio assessments include grading rubrics for students to self-check, determine the quality of his or her work, and then decide if the portfolio should be submitted or revised.