



# Friday Focus

## Greenup County Schools

### Adding Rigor to Any Lesson

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It is nearing the end of the year, and test prep, spring fever, behavior, anxiousness... it is all there. So how do you keep students focused and interested in non tested areas or perhaps the primary grades? What intrigues seniors to attend? How do you let students feel like more than a number or score for the state? Add rigor and expectations and students will know you plan to remain teaching until May 27th.



Rigor—Each teacher has heard it, PL sessions have been offered, but really.... How do you pull it off this late in the game? Here is a bulleted list of ideas on how to transform a regular lesson into a more rigorous learning experience.

1. Necessitate a transfer of understanding to the real world
2. Maximize the need for synthesis and understanding from multiple perspectives.
3. Consult Blooms Taxonomy and avoid worksheets, read the book and answer the

questions in the chapter assignments.

4. Combine subject areas such as arts, sciences, history etc. to show that all areas interrelate in order to show different perspectives as well as build on student strengths.
5. When in doubt, put yourself in the student's shoes. Ask yourself, would I enjoy this lesson and would I want to do it if I were their age? That will tell you how your lesson ranks in the areas of rigor and engagement.

Common classroom tasks are rigorous, such a reading idea dense literature, taking notes, and using the writing process itself. But to make learning rigorous at all levels, while engaging to all learning styles, you need a well laid plan of projects and objectives.

#### Upcoming Academy Dates:

- Teacher Appreciation
- H S K-Prep 5/7, 5/8

#### Extended Thought

[ASCD Rigor Ideas](#)—article

[5 Ways to Increase Rigor](#)— 2 minute video— video

[Unit Planning for Rigor](#) —tutorial

[Using Rigor in STEM](#)— article

### TESTING REMINDER/TIP OF THE WEEK

#### Administration Code :

Students may have non-content related materials at their workstation after they have completed testing and their test materials have been collected.

#### Inclusion of Special Populations:

Extended time accommodation: The student must have used regular time appropriately and made progress in order to be allowed extended time. Extended time is limited to time and half or double time. For example a 30 minute test can become a 45 min test, or it can be a 60 minute test. Do not extend beyond double time. Extended time should immediately follow the testing session and shall not go beyond the end of the school day.

#### GAP Strategies of the Week:

- \* Collaborate with colleagues and parents. A team approach can provide the most successful results for students. Students can never have too many adults supporting them and expecting great things from them. Develop relationships , buddies, mentors, and help them set goals that can be monitored together.—Daggett