

Name of Strategy:	Anchor learning tasks
Critical and Creative Thinking Organising Element:	Critical and creative thinking
Purpose of Strategy	
<p><i>In this class we are never finished. Learning is a process that never ends.</i> - Carol Ann Tomlinson</p> <p>Anchor learning tasks are negotiated tasks between teacher and student that students can work on independently throughout a unit. They are based on student interests and develop important concepts and skills that extend student learning. Anchor learning tasks are usually also connected to the curriculum in hand.</p>	
Description of Strategy	
<p>Anchor learning tasks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide meaningful learning experiences for students to go on with when they have achieved mastery of the core curriculum • allow students to engage in self-directed, autonomous learning in areas of their passion • provide opportunities for collaborative problem solving • provide authentic differentiation • enhance the General Capability of Numeracy through disciplinary / interdisciplinary learning • with negotiation, may be incorporated into a student's assessment portfolio and/or report. 	
Teaching Example	Year level: All
<p>You are planning a trip to a destination of your choice.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan the most direct route. • Plan the longest route. • Plan the most economical trip. • Plan the most luxurious trip. • Plan the trip with the most stop overs. • Plan the most dangerous trip. • Plan the safest trip. • Plan the trip with the least impact on the environment. • Plan the trip with the most personal significance for you. <p>(Consider time zones, timetables, conversion of currencies, distance and any other factor of your choice)</p>	

References:

Further suggestions for Anchor learning tasks in mathematics and other disciplines may be found at the following:

Anchor Activities. Retrieved from

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1R9CCmO8UP0mF8wv4TLdJaZRv532rWI5BAANQVEJfAw/edit?pref=2&pli=1>

Curriculum Resources. Retrieved from

<https://sites.google.com/a/fonddulac.k12.wi.us/curriculum-resources/gifted-and-talented/differentiation/anchor-activities>

Anchor activities: Retrieved from

http://www.rec4.com/filestore/rec4_anchoractivitypacket_080513.pdf

This site contains a sample student contract.