

Making Learning Whole

Most of us are familiar with KWL charts, a graphic organizer that is useful for both teachers and students. Teachers can use the chart to serve as a framework for planning, instruction, and assessment, whereas students can use it to organize their learning at every phase—acquisition, meaning making, and transfer.

As we continue to explore standards-based learning in more depth, my attention has been drawn to an expansion of the KWL chart—the KWHLAQ strategy (Sheninger, 2021). Emphasis is still placed on what transpires before, during, and after learning. However, this graphic organizer places the learner at the center of the transaction. It is also a useful tool for formative assessment.

Reference

Sheninger, E. (2021). Disruptive thinking in our classrooms: Preparing learners for their future. Chicago, IL: ConnectEDD Publishing.