

CREATING RIGOR and RELEVANCE CHALLENGE

An activity for CREATING is a Rigor and Relevance Challenge. You will need one index card for each group.

Divide your staff into working groups of 5-6 participants, who will brainstorm instructional tops for any subjects which are generally taught in Quadrant A of the Rigor/Relevance Framework. Encourage participants to think of a low-level memorization assignment through which they, or their students suffered, such as: vocabulary words, identifying mechanical devices in physics, and mathematics operations.

Have the groups select ONE topic that is a good candidate for improvement and write it on an index card.

Collect the cards and redistribute them to a different group.

Have the groups write a skill and knowledge statement for the topic, which is in Quadrant D of the Rigor/Relevance Framework. They should then suggest at least one instructional activity that would raise student performance to the stated level.

Have groups report on 1) Their assigned skills, 2) the higher level that is their target on the Rigor/Relevance Framework, and 3) their instructional activities.

Appoint a couple of judges and give a prize to the group that is the most creative. This activity could also be expanded to have participants use the Rigor/Relevance Worksheet to create skill and knowledge activities for Quadrants B, C, or D.