

Eight Characteristics of Accelerated Learning.

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1. Whole-Brain (right/left hemispheres):

Accelerated Learning includes both right brain processing (thinking in pictures, using rhythm, rhyme, and patterns to remember), and left brain processing (thinking in words, using sequences and numbers to remember).

2. Cognitive/Affective (mental/emotional):

Accelerated Learning has as much to do with feelings as with thinking because it's through emotion that learning is moved into long-term memory.

3. Active (seeing, hearing, saying, doing):

In Accelerated Learning, the LEARNERS are actively involved, not just passive recipients of information. It's through the DOING that the learning takes place.



4. Learner-Centered (rather than instructor-centered):

Accelerated Learning focuses the learner on himself and the other learners as they explore new information. Activities are set up so that learners can learn from each other with the instructor acting as guide-on-the-side.

5. Collaborative (a learning community):

Accelerated Learning creates connections between learners so that they feel psychologically safe while learning together and so that they can be a community resource for each other.

6. Variety (teaching/learning strategies to reach all learning styles):

Accelerated Learning includes a smorgasbord of instructional methods so that the diverse learning needs of the group are met.

7. Eight Intelligences - logical/mathematical, linguistic, interpersonal, intrapersonal, musical, kinesthetic, spatial, nature (also called the Eight Smarts - number, word, people, self, music, body, picture, nature):

Accelerated Learning uses all the intelligences to help learners gain knowledge quickly and remember it longer.

8. Environment (light, sound, temperature, food, furniture, colors, peripherals):

In Accelerated Learning, the environment and the physical senses are important parts of the whole learning experience.

Accelerated Learning means learning faster and remembering more.

Other definitions of Accelerated Learning are:

“Learn it quick and make it stick!”

“Learn it fast and make it last!”

Characteristics of Accelerated Learning originated from research by The Center for Accelerated Learning. Log onto www.alcenter.com for more information.

Definitions of Accelerated Learning are from Red Deer College in Alberta, Canada, and The Pasadena Independent School District in Pasadena, Texas.

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Author and traveling teacher Sharon Bowman helps educators and business people “teach it quick and make it stick,” - fine-tuning their information-delivery skills and turning their passive listeners into active learners.

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