

# Intentional Instructional Moves

Strategic Steps to  
Accelerate Student  
Learning

## Companion Guide

Chapter 6: Authentic Resources  
Intentional Step One



## Chapter 6

### Intentional Step One: Use More Effective Tools

In this scenario, the teacher recognizes that students aren't connecting with some of the more conventional materials they've been using for the lesson. While worksheets and writing on the board can certainly be helpful and appropriate for teaching particular kinds of content, there are situations where students would benefit from engaging with real-world learning tools, as in the example of the grocery store.

#### Strategy 1: Real-World Tools

Real-world tools can be any materials or implements used in actual careers, including rulers, protractors, maps, scales, microscopes, and hammers. For instance, if students are learning to convert from the imperial system to the metric system, the teacher could provide them with cooking recipes and various measuring cups and spoons to help them practice. Or if students are learning about their local geography, the teacher might bring in actual topographical maps and land surveys of the region.

Using these tools in instruction helps students make important connections between what they're learning and the tools utilized in specific careers. They also create immersive learning experiences that more closely resemble real-world situations students might encounter. While using these tools, students can engage in deliberate practice (.79) and learn to see the value of these skills (.46). Relevant tools can also enhance active learning strategies and critical thinking.