



Using Knowledge Organisers

Strategies for Parents

ERASMUS DARWIN ACADEMY

Excellence for All

Teach Me

You don't need to understand or know anything about the subject to help your child revise. Read through the knowledge organiser with your child then ask them to explain it to you – 'teaching' you helps them to reinforce their learning.

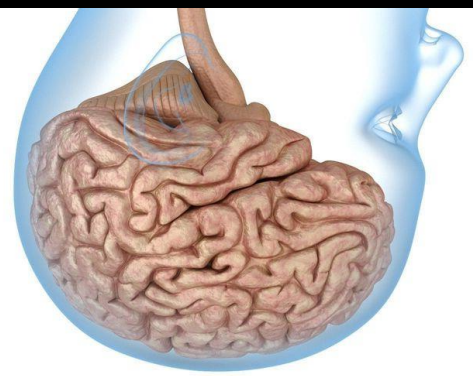
Questions you can ask to prompt your child to explain to you may include:

- What does that word mean?
- How do those things link together?
- Why did/does that happen?
- Who did/does that effect?



Mind Maps

Try converting the information from the Knowledge Organiser into a mind map or make your own version using clip art imagery if the organiser contains a lot of text. Display on the wall or the fridge door until the memory 'sticks'.



A mind map is a visual way to display information, and starts with the main topic written in the middle of the page. From there, write or draw all of the ideas, words or information that link to it. Continue to do this so you develop lots of smaller branches around your mind map. Remember...this is visual, so use images, pictures and diagrams rather than lots of words!



Spelling Tests

Test them regularly on the spellings of key words until they are perfect. Make a note of the ones they get wrong – is there a pattern to the spelling of those words?

If words are spelt wrong - **Look-Cover-Write-Check**

For spellings that children are getting wrong do the following:

Look - Show them the word

Cover - Cover the word up so it can't be seen

Write - Get your child to write the word down

Check - Check to see if they have spelt it correctly



Glossary

Get them to make a glossary (list) of keywords with definitions or a list of formulae.

They could then put the glossary in the folder along with their knowledge organisers.

Glossary

Glossary contains explanations of concept
sense, the term is related to the
that transform



Podcast

Try recording the knowledge from the organiser as a sound file on their phones, so that your child can listen to. Some pupils retain more information this way.

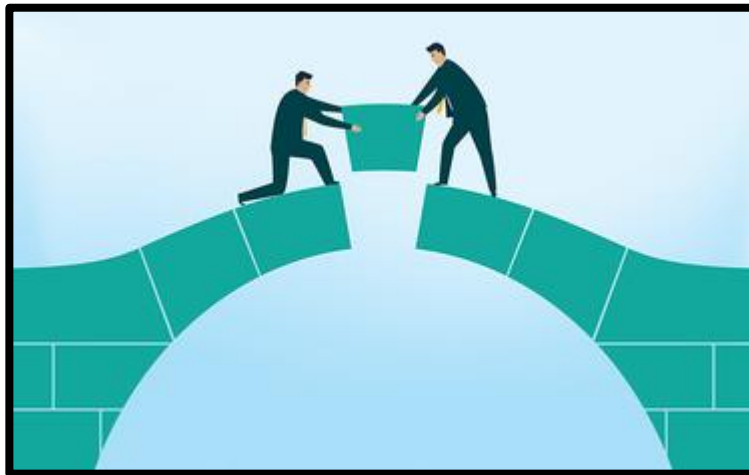
Get your child to read out the definitions, key words or formulae whilst you record them. Or maybe become the star of the show yourself and record yourself reading the information for your child.



Mind the Gap

Read sections out to them, missing out key words or phrases and get your child to fill the gaps. Miss out more and more until they are word-perfect.

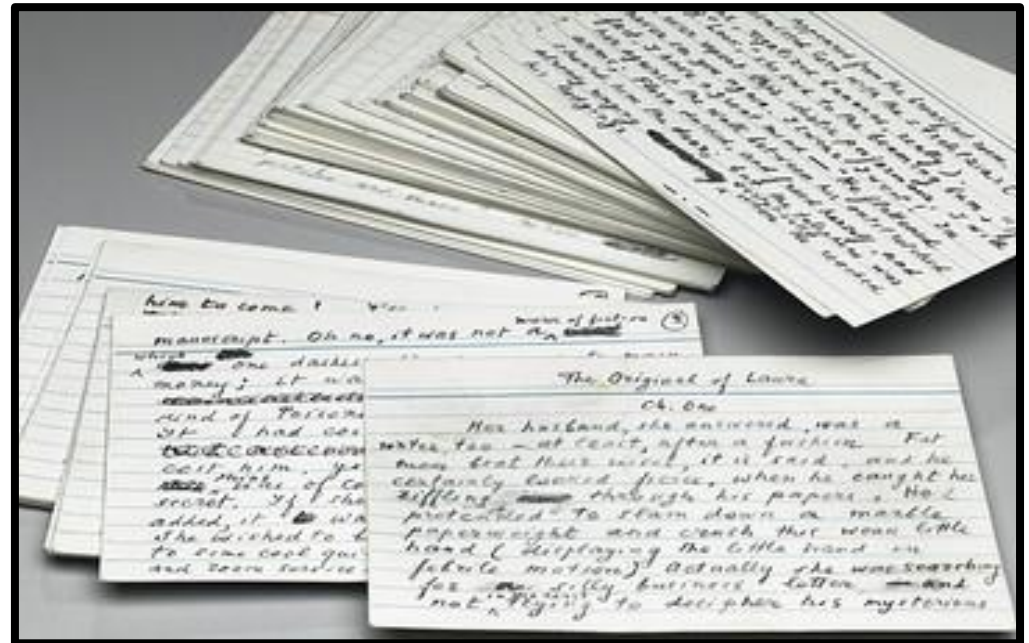
This strategy is particularly good for remembering definitions or longer sentences.



Crib Sheet

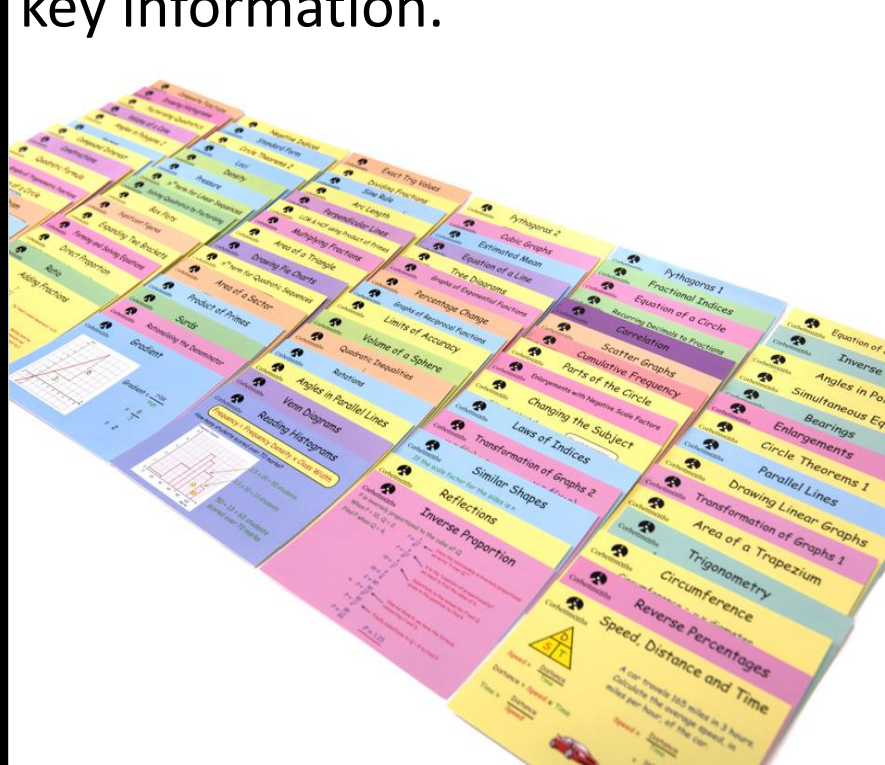
Get your child to take the information on Knowledge Organiser and reduce it in detail so it fits onto a smaller sheet of paper. Then reduce this again by making the information more concise. Keep doing this until you can fit only parts of sentences or key words onto a small piece of card.

Then get your child to use this small card as a prompt to then explain the topic back to you verbally.



Flash Card

Using the information on the Knowledge Organiser, help your child produce lots of pocket-sized cards that contain the various bits of information for that topic. Include as many visuals as possible, rather than lots of writing. Students can then carry these around on car journeys or at school to look at and remind themselves quickly of the key information.



GCSEpod

When your child begins the Examination Stage, they will have access to GCSEpod. This is a website containing thousands of podcasts for all their examination subjects. Encourage them to listen to them regularly. Maybe even get a tick list on the fridge so students can tally the amount of podcasts they have listened to for each subject!

www.gcsepod.com

