



HOW TO SUPPORT LEARNING TRANSFER





WHAT IS LEARNING TRANSFER?

Learning transfer happens when students carry a concept or skill from one situation to another, not just repeating what they learned but thinking about how it applies to a **new context**.

As Julie Stern reminds us: “**Transfer is the point of learning.**”





UNDERSTANDING CONCEPTS

Before students can build and express conceptual understandings, they need time to explore what the concept actually means.

Use examples, case studies, and provocations to help students:

- Look for patterns
- Compare and contrast examples
- Make connections across contexts





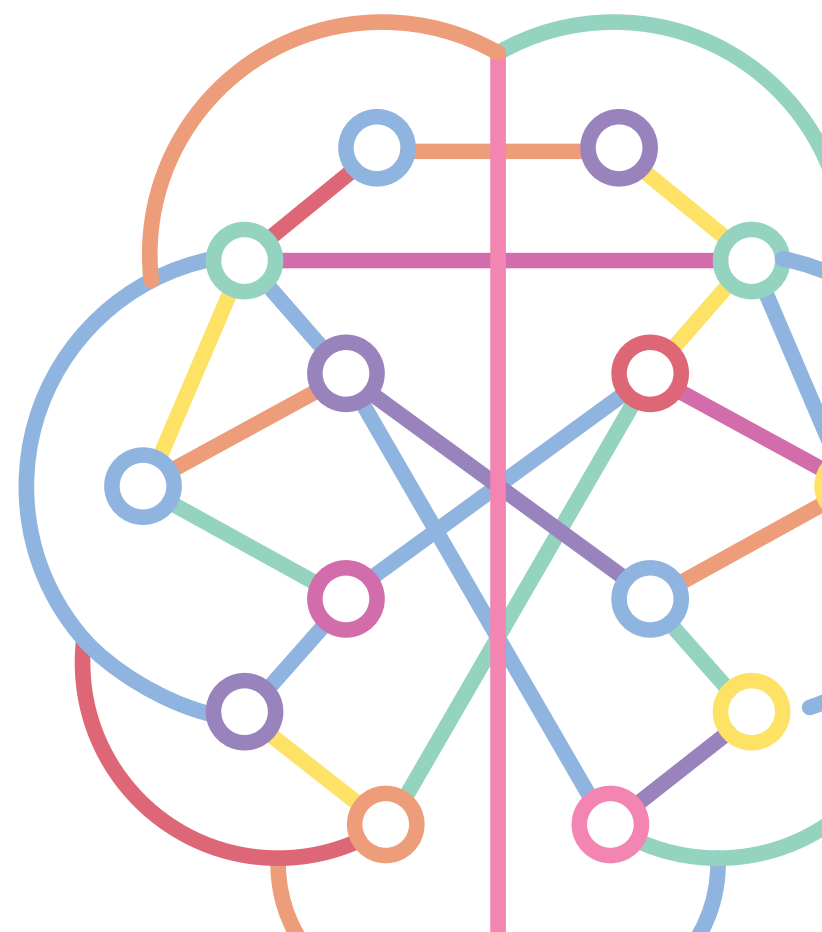
BUILDING CONCEPTUAL UNDERSTANDINGS



Before learners can transfer ideas, they must build and express conceptual understandings through guided questioning and exploration.


Show how this happens through:


- guiding questions,
- exploration of concepts, and
- understanding the relationships between concepts.



WHAT IF ...? SCENARIOS

“What if...?” questions help students apply a concept beyond the familiar context, which is the heart of learning transfer.

 What if this took place underwater instead of on land?

 What if this material were magnetic instead of plastic?

This prompt forces students to:

- ◆ Explain why outcomes would change.
- ◆ Transfer conceptual understanding across contexts.

