

Concept Attainment

Concept attainment allows students to see patterns and infer an overarching concept that is related to a group of words or ideas. By analyzing groups of words, students are able to gain an understanding of the characteristics of a concept and form a definition.



When using concept attainment, go through the following steps:

1. Create two list headings in a t-Chart:

YES	NO

2. Create lists of ideas, concepts or objects that students might be familiar with. One by one, categorize these under the 'Yes' or 'No' heading.
3. Part way through categorizing, have students hypothesize what the concept is. Have them jot down their idea.
4. Place more ideas into the 'Yes' or 'No' heading. Have students check their hypothesis.
5. Have students suggest more ideas under the 'Yes' column.
6. When most students have written down a hypothesis, reveal the concept. Students reflect on their thinking.