

## **Learning Objective 2 Reflection**

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Nearly every day at my internship I helped at least one student with homework. The middle and high school students generally needed less help than the elementary school students, but most of the students still struggle in school. Therefore, we work with the elementary school students to build a firm foundation with addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, and estimating large numbers. By fifth grade, the typical student should be fairly efficient at these mathematical tasks. Unfortunately, many of the students in the program have changed school several times and do not get much academic support at home and are performing well below grade level. After a few weeks of consistently quizzing the students with flash cards, I noticed several students answering the questions more quickly and with more confidence. When quizzing, I hold up the flash card, say the problem out loud, and I also allow the student to write the problem down before answering. It was amazing how just a small amount of encouragement, many of the students' grades improved quickly. Every time I worked with a student, I would make sure to say at least one positive thing about the student's abilities to complete his or her homework.

In order to provide each child with the best learning environment possible, I researched the various learning styles. The idea of different learning styles is based on Howard Gardner's theory of multiple intelligences. The forms of intelligence are broken into the following learning domains according to Antoniou and Kalinoglou (2013): Cognitive which includes the verbal/linguistic, logical/mathematical, and spatial intelligences; psychomotor which includes the bodily-kinesthetic and musical intelligences; and affective referring to the interpersonal and intrapersonal intelligences. Descriptions of each learning style that I used to determine which style applies to each student are the following (Advanogy.com, 2014):

- Visual - related to spatial intelligence: "You prefer using pictures, images, and spatial understanding."
- Aural- related to musical intelligence: "You prefer using sound and music."
- Verbal - related to linguistic intelligence: "You prefer using words, both in speech and writing."

- Physical – related to bodily-kinesthetic intelligence: “You prefer using your body, hands, and sense of touch.”
- Logical – related to mathematical: “You prefer using your body, hands, and sense of touch.”
- Social – related to interpersonal: “You prefer to learn in groups or with other people.
- Solitary – related to intrapersonal: “You prefer to work alone and use self-study.”

I have included a document with the learning style identified for each student as well as the subjects on which each student needs to work hardest.

#### References

Antoniou, F., & Kalinoglou, F. (2013). Teaching style: Is it measurable and changeable?

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Advanogy.com. (2014). *Overview of Learning Styles*. Retrieved from <http://www.learning-styles-online.com/overview/>