

Methods 101: Learning Styles Made Simple: Tools for Effective Teaching

Understanding how different people learn helps you become a more effective instructor. Below are the four basic learning styles, along with tips to engage each one during your Mah Jongg lessons or workshops.

Notes ...





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VISUAL LEARNERS learn best through seeing.

Tendencies:

- Prefer diagrams, charts, and written instructions
- Remember what they see more than what they hear

Strategies:

- Use visuals like slides, handouts, and annotated tile images
- Color-code categories or suits
- Draw diagrams or flowcharts to show gameplay sequences

What visual tools do you currently use?

What new visual aid could you try next session?

AUDITORY LEARNERS learn best through hearing.

Tendencies:

- Retain spoken information well
- Like discussion, Q&A, or verbal repetition

Strategies:

- Explain rules and strategies out loud, clearly
- Use storytelling or analogies to explain complex concepts
- Allow time for students to repeat back or ask questions

How do you emphasize key points verbally?

When could you add a story to make a lesson stick?



READING & WRITING LEARNERS learn best through reading and writing tasks.

Tendencies:

- Prefer written explanations, notes, or lists
- Like to write things down to remember them

Strategies:

- Provide checklists, printed rules, or reference guides
- Encourage note-taking
- Assign written summaries or reflections on gameplay

What handouts do you offer?

Could you add a “write your own rules summary” task?

KINESTHETIC LEARNERS learn best by doing or moving.

Tendencies:

- Like hands-on experiences
- Learn by physically engaging with materials

Strategies:

- Use real tiles early and often
- Encourage students to physically build hands and practice moves
- Incorporate mini-games or activities like tile-sorting races or partner play

What tactile activities do you already use?

Could you add more movement or hands-on elements?



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