

Fuzz: When Nature Breaks the Law

Creating Strange (but long-lasting) Mnemonics

Background: Ask students to read this article from Science Daily about our ability to remember strange or peculiar associations. We also remember better when we can interleave the information we are currently learning with information we already know. Once students understand that these two aspects of encoding can assist in the retention of information, they should be more likely to engage in these practices in class.

Science Daily Article

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2017/06/170619092713.htm>

Sample Mnemonic Device:

To remember parts of the limbic system, use the following tip.

HippoHAT: Each capital letter represents part of the limbic system (hippocampus, hypothalamus, amygdala, and thalamus).

The silly visual image associated with this mnemonic should aid in recall.

Directions: This chart below can be distributed to students at the end of any number of lessons to help them create ways in which they can connect their current learning to prior learning.

Concept to be recalled	Mnemonic Device	Connection to Prior Learning
Flashbulb memory	Imagine a flashbulb on a camera to remember a particularly vivid and emotional type of memory.	Flashbulb memory is a type of episodic memory in which we remember specific episodes or events in our lives. Flashbulb memories tend to be more vivid and emotional as well as shorter than traditional episodic memories.

