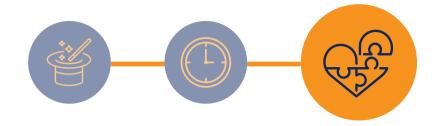
HOW TO USE **RELEVANCE**TO BOOST STUDENT MOTIVATION





Relevance: The state of Why does this matter to me? Or Why is this important to know?

RELEVANCE IMPACTS LEARNING AND MEMORY



Cortisol, in moderate levels, is connected to improved motivation. Too much activates an unhealthy stress response. Too little, the edge is gone.



The student asking, "Why do we have to do this?" is actually pretty smart. They are seeking what their brain craves: **relevance**.



The brain pays attention to things that ensure survival. Relevance is about helping students come to the conclusion of **"I NEED this!"**

STATEMENTS

THAT CAN FOSTER A STATE OF RELEVANCE

- "You might be wondering why this is important to learn. Let me tell you ..."
- "You'll want this knowledge with you when you ... " (insert a situation that makes the content useful)
- "Knowing how to do this will help you when you ..."
- "Here is how I used this knowledge just this week ..."

STRATEGIES

THAT CAN FOSTER A STATE OF RELEVANCE

- Connect your content to a current issue that your students are passionate about – teen anxiety, social justice, etc.
- Relate your lesson to something from pop culture, sports, upcoming holidays, etc.
- Ask students to find a metaphor or analogy that connects the content to something they already know about.

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