

Springwood School

Success For Life

Study Strategies Curriculum

The words “Study Strategies” do not elicit overwhelming excitement in most students. In fact, it can conjure up a picture of mind-numbing activities that make you wonder what lunch item you’ll select in the FAC building while listening to a boring litany of strategies that met your needs while you were in the K-P building. In fact, countless hours of research has gone into finding current literature and proven strategies that are designed to help college prep students do well in high school, college, and beyond. In the *Springwood Success for Life Study Strategies* curriculum, you will find many strategies that will help you be successful at Springwood and beyond.

There are many reasons to take the time to focus on study strategies. See which ones mean the most to you.

1. “Winning in the Classroom” is more than just words!

The Wildcat Way uses the “W” to express the concept of Winning in the classroom. Winning in the classroom encompasses many things. The Springwood staff realized that we needed to address the concept of a systematic method of making sure our students were taught study skills. We realized that it is hard to be successful in the classroom if you have not been taught all of the skills necessary to achieve at your highest potential in a college prep curriculum. Some research reveals that as many as 40 percent of high school students are functioning below their full academic potential. We do not want that to happen to our Wildcats!

2. Your future depends on it!

The grades you make now can shape your life in many ways. Your grades can determine whether or not you graduate, whether or not you are eligible for athletics, what scholarships you are eligible for, what college you can gain acceptance, what classes you can take in college, and what major you can qualify for. In short, your grades determine your future. No pressure!



3. College entrance is a grades business

Colleges look at high-school transcripts to determine which students they will accept. Your Springwood diploma goes a long way in impressing admissions officers regarding the college prep coursework you took. While the Springwood diploma may give you a leg up, it is the grades on your final transcript which will determine acceptance and

admission. Grades on your final transcript start now! These grades can (*and will!*) be improved with instruction on effective study skills.

4. Study Strategies can help you with more than just tests for grades in school.

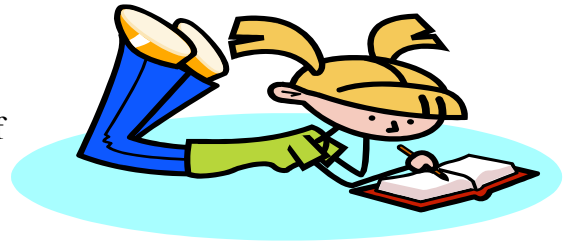
As you know, you may be faced with the ACT, SAT, GRE and many tests in between. The study strategies you will learn about in this course will help you with these tests as well. Depending on your major in college, you may also face exams for which you will have to study that determine if you graduate from college or obtain a specialized certification. *Any tip or strategy that gives you an edge is worth the time to learn.*

5. Studying can be like watching paint dry.

Have you ever watched paint dry? If not, you can imagine the boredom that is part of the activity. Without the proper tools, studying can also seem boring. The purpose of the Springwood Study Strategies course is to equip you with the tools to make studying more successful and thereby more enjoyable.

6. Studying can take too long if you do not have the proper skills.

Many students exhaust themselves with inefficient, laborious, and sometimes counterproductive study methods assuming that what they are doing is “studying.” After hours of reading the same material, they realize they still cannot remember what they have been “studying.” This course will show you how to study!



7. School is a game and the person who plays the game the best...WINS!

School is not just seven hours of classes interwoven with note taking, test taking, and socializing with your friends. There are many things that you can do to be more successful in school that you have never been taught before. This course will show you what these are.

8. Many college prep classes focus on content and not study strategies.

A college prep curriculum is rigorous with every day more important than the next. The pace can be fast with the focus firmly placed on the subject content. While the focus on the subject content is understandable, this leaves little time to actually focus on the study strategies and test taking tips. This course focuses on just that!

9. This course is designed for students who are smart and want the competitive edge of proven research based strategies that can help them excel in school at any level.

Many study strategy courses are geared toward the student who is struggling in school and is at risk of even graduating from school. The Springwood Success for Life program is written specifically for Springwood students. It is written to help Wildcats maximize their study time, prepare for and ace exams, and learn more while spending less time involved in the daily task of studying.

10. School is like a buffet line and we want your plate full!

Think of the best buffet line you have ever seen. As you begin with an empty plate you find that there are many things you would like to put on your plate to enjoy. Before you know it, your plate is full of lots of good stuff and you are ready to sit down and pig-out! That's exactly how we want you to view your days at Springwood. We want you to fill your plate with the many items on the "food bar" whether it is something from the fine arts, athletics, community service, or other item that interests you. The challenge comes when your plate is full and you still are responsible for your coursework and doing well in school. Some of these challenges include getting home from practice at 6:00 with homework in four subjects, getting home from a road win at midnight with a test the next day, or dreading the major research paper due in two weeks. Do any of these sound familiar? Knowing the study strategies in this course can help you make the most of your study time when you need it the most.