

# PROVIDING CHOICE:

## Choice Boards and Choice Menus for Instructional Choice

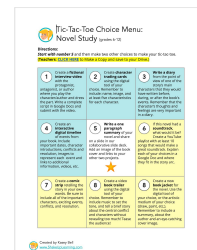
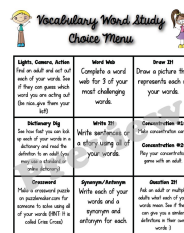
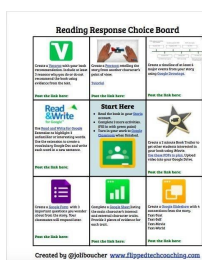
### What is instructional choice:

Instructional choice is when students are provided with the ability to make choices about their education. This is done by providing them with two or more activities to choose from in order to promote their academic engagement. When students are provided with choice, it provides them with a sense of autonomy.

### Examples of choice boards/choice menus:

Choice boards have been shown to work with multiple academic content areas including:

- Reading
- Math
- Social Studies
- Science
- Vocabulary
- Art/Music



### Rationale for using choice boards in the classroom:

Choice boards provide students with opportunities to work towards an academic goal in different ways. Not all students learn in the same way and providing them with different ways to learn or demonstrate knowledge about a specific topic provides them with a sense of autonomy. Instead of requiring students to all complete an assignment in the same way, they can choose which way they want to learn or express knowledge. This has been shown to help increase academic engagement and on task behavior for students. It has also been shown to decrease disruptive behavior and provide students with disabilities with more opportunities for inclusion in the general education classroom.

### Who benefits from using choice boards:

- Students with emotional disturbance disorders
- Students with ADHD/ADD
- Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Students who are English language learners
- Students with a specific learning disability
- Students in the general education classroom

### How to create your own choice board:

1. When creating a choice board, make sure that all activities or assignments have a central topic or theme.
2. Each square or section of the choice board should feature a different activity that is related to the original topic of the academic content area so that all students are able to find an activity that fits their learning style.
3. If you want students to complete more than one activity, provide them with a point value system and have them work towards a specific number of points, or have them complete activities that are all in a specific row. Make sure that the activities are spaced and positioned so that all students are completing equal amounts of work in different ways.
4. The activities should provide opportunities for both individual and group work so that students have the opportunity for showing individual knowledge and interpersonal skills.

### Citations:

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