

SOS SPOTLIGHT ON STRATEGIES

Simple instructional strategies that incorporate digital media in meaningful, effective, and practical ways.

MYTH BUSTIN'!



MythBusters, a popular show on the Discovery Channel, tests popular myths in order to confirm or bust them. This strategy takes the idea of myth busting and applies it to content students explore through digital media. By providing students with a list of statements to “bust” or “confirm,” we are providing explicit cues about what students are about to learn. These cues help students focus on important information we want them to have, as well as trigger what they may already know about a topic.



Materials: video segment, variety of explicit cues, writing tools

1. Find several explicit cues about the content you are about to study. These statements will be the prompts for students to apply critical thinking and problem solving skills.
2. Have students take out a sheet of paper. On one side have them write the word “Confirmed” and on the other side “Busted”.
3. Display the specific statements.
4. In pairs, have the students discuss each statement and decide whether it should be considered confirmed or busted.
5. Play a video segment about the selected topic.
6. Have students work individually to confirm or bust the statements by gathering evidence from the video segment to support their decision.
7. To conclude, review the statements as a whole group and allow students to vote with their “confirmed” or “busted”. Call on students to share what evidence they found that supports their stance.

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This strategy is an effective way to help students focus their attention on important learning, develop critical thinking skills, and learn how to support their opinions and decisions with sound evidence.



1. Have students create their own statements about a particular topic and challenge their peers to confirm or bust them by locating supporting evidence.
2. If you have access to the Discovery Education Science Techbook, check out the MythBuster episodes. Use the Student Peer Review Sheet found within the “Materials” tab to explore myths using the scientific inquiry method.

MythBusters: Circular Motion: 360° Degree Swing Set + -

Full Video | 127,412 Views | [08:21] | 6 Segments

Science Techbook

Details ▾ Download ▾ Materials (2) ▾ Transcript ▾ More To Explore ▾

[Student Peer Review Sheet](#) [Teacher's Guide](#)



MythBusters: Circular Motion: 360° Degree Swing Set
[08:21]

 **The Swing Set Myth**
[02:18] 4 Likes 👍 Share ➦

 **The Science Behind the Swing Experiment**
[00:42]

 **Test #1: Build Team Members**
[01:25]