CONCEPT CARDS

You will need 3x5 or 4x6 unlined cards. You may want to use several colors.

Decide

Decide which are the key concepts of the textbook chapter or lecture notes. They might be:
- Vocabulary
- Terms or formulas
- Bold headings in the text
- Ideas that are emphasized

Print

Print one key concept on the front of an index card in large, bold letters. You can add the chapter and page number in the lower right corner.

Example:

Photosynthesis
Ch. 6
p. 101

Read

Read the entire section of the text or lecture notes that deals with this key concept.

Recite

Recite what you just read in your own words.

Write

Write your brief answers on the other side of the card. Phrases, illustrations, and doodles are all acceptable.

Example:

1. manufactures plant food
2. chlorophyll present
3. sunlight activates

Review

Turn the card face up and recite the key concept. Check back of the card to see what you recalled. Continue above steps for rest of text or lecture notes.

Concept cards are good for:
- carrying with you to study at odd moments (3x5s fit in a shirt pocket).
- emphasizing study on that information you have trouble remembering.
- spreading out on a desk or table to see how they relate to each other.
- having a friend quiz you.

For more information, visit or call your nearest Rutgers Learning Center, or visit our website: http://rlc.rutgers.edu

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