

# showing what we know



Students have a lot of ideas about the best ways they learn and can show mastery. We asked a 5th grader for advice for educators and we received the tips below. Use them to guide your **check for understanding practices** and if possible, work with your students to build a list of your own.



## SLIDESHOWS

Not just any slideshows, but the type that gives us a chance to be creative. It feels good when there is a push to really show what we know or what we've researched in ways that feel like me. I like choosing my design, playing with fonts, and deciding how I want to share.



## SUMMARIZING

This is a good way to help us show what we know during or at the end of any lesson. It is an especially good way after watching videos or reading books. If we need to learn something, it always helps to summarize and share so that it sticks.



## TAKING NOTES *(and doing something with them!)*

Notes can be taken while the teacher is teaching the lessons BUT THEN at the end, ask us to share what we learned from the notes we took. Ask us what we understand and still feel confused about.



## WHITE BOARDS

These can be much funner than a written test. Teachers can check to see what we've learned in a group or one on one by asking a question and having students hold up their answers on white boards. It just feels way better!



## SIMULATIONS

Once I got the chance to learn how to add with checks and money, My teacher, Ms. Specks did a great job making sure it was fun to show what we learned. We got to simulate using checks to buy items like we would in the real world. We got to find the items, add them up, and actually fill out the information on checks. This made the learning feel like it was important in real life and it was fun!

## BUILDING Show What you Know Tips with Students



**Get Together:** Bring students one on one, in small groups, or as a class and let them know you would like to make sure everyone has a chance to showcase their learning in ways that work for them. Let students know you have ideas but that the class can be better if you have theirs too.

**Guide:** Define what it means to show what you know in student friendly terms (*ex. sharing what you've learned from a lesson, showing what you understand*). Share a few examples with students (*you can use 2 or 3 from the list above*)

**Generate:** Ask the student(s) to share their ideas. Focus on listening and clarifying to make sure you understand. Chart their responses.

**Gratitude:** Thank students for their input and share your next steps (*ex. We will try one of these for our next or daily lessons then we will reflect on how they worked and try it again*). Then do it all again!