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Suggested Verb List for Writing Learning Objectives

As learning objectives should be measurable they should begin with a verb that can be measured, e.g. understand is NOT on the list because one's understanding cannot be readily measured. The following list is designed to help you create your objectives. Try to be specific and vary the verbs.

The columns on the left are the most frequently used, but try branching into the other columns for higher-level skills. Some basic examples include:

- Describe the following congenital abdominal wall anomalies: umbilical hernia, omphalocele, gastroschisis, & pentalogy of cantrell.
- Identify the essential components of an antenatal discussion with parents.
- Delineate initial therapy of abdominal wall anomalies.

Appropriate Verbs for Learning Objectives

KNOWLEDGE	COMPREHENSION	APPLICATION	ANALYSIS	SYNTHESIS	EVALUATION	RECEIVING	RESPONDING	VALUING	ORGANIZATION	VALUE
Cite	Arrange	Adapt	Analyze	Arrange	Appraise	Accept	Agree	Adopt	Anticipate	Act
Choose	Associate	Apply	Appraise	Assemble	Approve	Acknowledge	Allow	Aid	Collaborate	Administer
Define	Clarify	Catalogue	Audit	Build	Assess	Attend (to)	Answer	Care (for)	Confer	Advance
Label	Classify	Chart	Break down	Combine	Choose	Follow	Ask	Complete	Consider	Advocate
List	Convert	Compute	Calculate	Compile	Conclude	Listen	Assist	Compliment	Consult	Aid
Locate	Describe	Consolidate	Categorize	Compose	Confirm	Meet	Attempt	Contribute	Coordinate	Challenge
Match	Diagram	Demonstrate	Certify	Conceive	Criticize	Observe	Choose	Delay	Design	Change
Name	Draw	Develop	Compare	Construct	Critique	Receive	Communicate	Encourage	Direct	Commit (to)
Recall	Discuss	Employ	Contrast	Create	Diagnose		Comply	Endorse	Establish	Counsel
Recognize	Estimate	Extend	Correlate	Design	Evaluate		Conform	Enforce	Facilitate	Criticize
Record	Explain	Extrapolate	Criticize	Devise	Judge		Cooperate	Evaluate	Follow through	Debate
Repeat	Express	Generalize	Deduce	Discover	Justify		Demonstrate	Expedite	Investigate	Defend
Select	Identify	Illustrate	Defend	Draft	Prioritize		Describe	Foster	Judge	Disagree
State	Locate	Infer	Detect	Formulate	Prove		Discus	Guide	Lead	Dispute
Write	Outline	Interpolate	Diagram	Generate	Rank		Display	Initiate	Manage	Empathize
Delineate	Paraphrase	Interpret	Differentiate	Integrate	Rate		Exhibit	Interact	Modify	Endeavor
	Report	Manipulate	Discriminate	Make	Recommend		Follow	Join	Organize	Enhance
	Restate	Modify	Distinguish	Manage	Research		Give	Justify	Oversee	Excuse
	Review	Order	Examine	Organize	Resolve		Help	Maintain	Plan	Forgive
	Sort	Predict	Infer	Plan	Revise		Identify	Monitor	Qualify	Influence
	Summarize	Prepare	Inspect	Predict	Rule on		Locate	Praise	Recommend	Motivate
	Transfer	Produce	Investigate	Prepare	Select		Notify	Preserve	Revise	Negotiate
	Translate	Relate	Question	Propose	Support		Obey	Propose	Simplify	Object
		Sketch	Reason	Reorder	Validate		Offer	Query	Specify	Persevere
		Submit	Separate	Reorganize			Participate (in)	React	Submit	Persist
		Tabulate	Solve	Set up			Practice	Respect	Synthesize	Praise
		Transcribe	Survey	Structure			Present	Seek	Test	Profess
		Use	Test	Synthesize			Read	Share	Vary	Promote
		Utilize	Uncover				Relay	Study	Weigh	Promulgate
			Verify				Reply	Subscribe		Question
							Respond	Suggest		Reject
							Select	Support		Resolve
							Try	Thank		Seek
								Uphold		Serve
										Solve
										Strive
										Tolerate
										Volunteer (for)