

1 DEMONSTRATE THAT MISTAKES ARE A SOURCE OF UNDERSTANDING.

When students are mindful of incorrect solution concepts while working on a problem, they're able to deal with the problem at a much deeper level than someone who's just presented with the correct solution and has to memorize it. Also, don't just correct a mistake. Make sure students recognize and understand the reason for the mistake.

6 PROVIDE TIMELY FEEDBACK.

Practice activities, make errors, get feedback, think over the feedback, and try again. That's the learning process. The less this process is interrupted, the more efficient and effective the learning is—and the earlier a problem is discovered, the easier it is to fix it.

8 ENCOURAGE INDEPENDENT CORRECTION.

Giving students the opportunity to find and correct their mistakes on their own immediately after they are made has a positive impact on their motivation to learn. And when students look for the source of mistakes on their own, they realize the cause and improve their understanding independently.

9 WAYS TO HELP STUDENTS LEARN THROUGH THEIR MISTAKES

 **teachthought**
WE GROW TEACHERS

Image Description: Infographic titled “9 Ways to Help Students Learn through Their Mistakes.” Three of the 9 “ways” have been left visible.

1. **Demonstrate that Mistakes Are a Source of Understanding.** When students are mindful of incorrect solutions while working on a problem, they are able to deal with the problem at a much deeper level than someone who’s just presented with the correct solution. **[Therefore, teachers shouldn’t] just correct a mistake.** [Teachers should instead] make sure students recognize and understand the reason for the mistake.

6. **Provide Timely Feedback.** Complete activities, make errors, get feedback, think over the feedback, and try again. That’s the learning process. The less this process is interrupted, the more efficient and effective the learning is — and the earlier a problem is discovered, the easier it is to fix.

8. **Encourage Independent Correction.** Giving students the opportunity to find and correct their mistakes on their own has a positive impact on their motivation to learn [to avoid further mistakes]. **And when students look for the source of mistakes on their own, they realize the cause and improve their understanding independently.**