9.1MRW: Ability to support and reinforce the instruction of students in math, reading, and writing following written and oral lesson plans developed by licensed teachers.

9.2MRW: Ability to utilize effective developmental, age-appropriate, and culturally sensitive instructional strategies in math, reading, and writing that support the instruction of licensed teachers.

**Motivating Students by Relating Content to Student Lives**

1. Make mental or physical notes of students’ hobbies, culture, and interests.

2. Be aware of the larger themes in each text or unit of study.

3. Help bridge the content to students’ lives with comments, questions, or observations.

4. Encourage students to make connections on their own by asking questions such as, “In what ways is this novel (play, film, character, etc.) similar to your life today?”

5. Use imagination and creativity to find the common denominator that connects students to each other and to their studies.

**Questions to consider when implementing this strategy**

- Would this strategy work with this/these student(s)? Why or why not?

- If not, how would the setting or characteristics of the students need to be different in order to apply the strategy?

- Why would this work?

- If the strategy could be applied to the students(s), would it be a benefit at this time? Why or why not?