

Reflections on Advanced Organizer Website:

This website offers a general discussion of Advanced Organizers as a teaching strategy, which can assist students to transfer or apply what they know to what they will be learning.

The artifact highlighted here is a graphic organizer intended to facilitate the teaching of a staff development session on the software program Photoshop elements. The organizer graphically represents the flow of the session from Introduction to learning basic tools, to integrating digital images and finally ideas for lesson integration.

I have used this organizer and have adapted it to the changes I have made in my in-services, depending on the needs of the learners. I have found the organizer helps participants "see" the overall flow of the day and prepare mentally to process through it.

I have also begun to integrate these visual organizers in my computer literacy classes with middle school students. They seem to be effective with this age group because they help prepare the students for what they can expect to learn from the project. I try to make them visually appealing and entertaining-providing a hook to lead into the lesson to follow.