Unfortunately, textbook chapters do not always indicate what the core idea of the chapter is, but there are several tactics you can use that will help you identify core ideas. These include:

Analyze the LEARNING STANDARDS published in state curriculum guides for your course. These often reflect core ideas.

Make sure the core concepts you develop reflect the BIGGER-PICTURE

Make sure the core concepts you develop address REAL-WORLD CONNECTIONS

Remember that you can't teach everything, so use INSTRUCTIONAL ECONOMY as a guideline for identifying core ideas to teach.

The core ideas you teach should reflect information that you expect ALL STUDENTS TO LEARN.

TEACHING TIPS

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