

MULTIPLE TEACHING TECHNIQUES APPROPRIATE FOR STUDENT LEARNING

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Abstract

Teaching is a complex, challenging and creative task. Predictable and traditional methods of teaching disengage the students, making them lose interest in learning. Knowing how to engage students begins with the selection of teaching techniques that address the needs of diverse students at different learning levels. With the advent of differentiated instruction, 21st century teachers must develop instructional styles that work well in diverse classrooms for effective teaching methods and engage talented students, as well as slow-learning children and those with attention deficit tendencies. Hence an attempt is made to elucidate multiple teaching techniques appropriate for student learning.

Key words: Traditional teaching, differentiated instruction, instructional styles, teaching techniques, student learning.

Introduction

The biggest challenge faced by any teacher in the 21st century classroom is to find the techniques that help students engage in the classroom. Gone are the days when teachers stand in front of the classroom and talk at students all day. Traditional pedagogical techniques, based on teacher explaining a topic and students taking notes may still be useful on certain occasions, but the present day students seem to display a lack of interest and apathy towards learning. It is the responsibility of the teacher to involve students in the learning process and create interest. Education today revolves more around encouraging the student to awaken their curiosity and desire to learn. It starts with teacher's personal inventory, self-evaluation, strengths and weaknesses. As the teachers develop their teaching techniques and integrate them with effective classroom management skills, they will know which technique works best for their students.

More and more teachers are adjusting their approach depending on their students' learning needs. This is where differentiated instruction and a balanced mix of teaching techniques can help the teacher to reach all students in classroom. With the advent of new educational patterns a number of multiple teaching techniques emerged. This gave the

scope to the teachers to replace traditional teaching techniques with the modern teaching techniques. The following are some of the teaching techniques appropriate for student learning.

Cooperative Learning:

Cooperative Learning is a technique that encourages small groups of students to work together for the achievement of a common goal. 'Cooperative learning' is also known as 'Collaborative Learning' in fact it is a technique that incorporates a broader range of group interactions such as developing student teacher discussions and encouraging knowledge exchange. These approaches stress the importance of teacher and student involvement in the learning process. The incorporation of these techniques into the classroom requires careful planning and preparation. Understanding how to form groups, ensuring positive interdependence, maintaining individual accountability, resolving group conflict, developing appropriate assignment, grading criteria, and managing active learning environments are critical to the achievement of a successful cooperative learning experience.

Story Telling Method:

Stories are used as tools to enhance the competence of the students. Generally everyone shows interest

towards stories. In spite of long or short, simple or complex regardless of their form stories, bring lot of connection between people. Individuals can use stories in their own way and acquire knowledge in various ways. Story telling began somewhere in ancient period in India. Stories are told either to develop morale of learners or to enlighten their minds. We can draw the attention of learners with these stories as they are very attractive and pleasing to everyone due to easy comprehension.

Integrating Technology:

The recent revolutionary developments in ICT have changed our world into what is called a 'knowledge society' where information is more globally shared and freely accessed than ever before and its advances affect all aspects of our life, including our approach to education. Today, educators realize that computer literacy is an important part of student's education. Integrating technology is appropriate and proving to be valuable for enhancing and extending the learning experience for teachers and students. Computers, LCD projectors, CD players, tape recorders, microphones and many more instruments create an atmosphere of learning. So the use of ICT is now considered essential to knowledge construction and enhances interest in learning, promotes self-learning in and outside classrooms.

Project based learning:

Project based learning is the most effective way to engage students actively. It provides a practical application of what they learn. It generates authentic assessment and enables real-world learning experiences. It also teaches the students problem solving skills, critical thinking and time management and reinforces student-centered classroom, where students are empowered in their learning. The teacher should design projects that are appropriate for the students learning, taking into account of their knowledge, make them look attractive and interesting as they create extra motivation.

Gamification:

The most commonly used technique in elementary and preschool education is making the students learn through games. By using games, students learn

without even realizing that they are engaged in learning process. Therefore, learning through play or Gamification is a learning technique that can be very effective at any age and keeps students motivated.

Social media in the classroom:

The internet has the potential to provide learners with vast resources of authentic written, audio and video materials to supplement lessons. Social network have become an integral part of everybody's personnel and professional lives. Educators can find a wide assortment of materials for learners to study in class or after class for independent learning and to encourage learner autonomy.

Free Online Learning Tools:

There is an array of free online learning tools available which teachers can use to encourage engagement, participation and a sense of fun into the classroom. Teachers can create an interactive and dynamic classroom environment using, for example, online quizzes to test student's knowledge.

Inquiry based learning:

Inquiry based learning helps the students develop deeper level of thinking skills. It implies involvement that leads to understanding and permits them seek solutions to the questions and issues while they construct new knowledge. The role of the teacher is to encourage Student participation and facilitate them in learning process. During the inquiry cycle, every student will be working on a different question or topic here the teachers can ask questions and make suggestions about the process rather than the content. At the end, students add on the experience about what they learned. They also consider how it connects to other topics of interest. This method of learning can make great use of technology through online sites, social media, and the possibility for global connections with people outside of the community.

Conclusion

The purpose of education is to awaken the minds of the students and to enhance skill development. Teachers have to keep updating their knowledge base constantly in order to be relevant and useful in the present-day classrooms. Effective learning takes place when the teachers plan the class as per the

competence of the students. They have to employ various methods to help students learn how ideas or concepts relate to one another and enable them to fit into a larger picture. Teaching materials and methods have to progress and upgrade to match the changing world.

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