Presentation Notes for Instructional Methods
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Bloom’s Taxonomy

- An analysis used as a basis for understanding and teaching various levels of thought by dividing thinking skills into six levels

Script: Bloom’s Taxonomy is used when writing lesson objectives to enhance student learning beyond basic knowledge of a subject or topic. Bloom’s Taxonomy has six levels of student learning that encourage students to think critically and facilitate their own learning. Bloom’s levels of higher level thinking should be used when constructing lesson plans to meet the needs of students.
Script: Well developed thinking skills are important because teachers need to be able to respond quickly to a variety of situations that can occur within the classroom and on campus. Information is constantly changing, so teachers need to be able to think critically.
Script: These are the four key instructional methods. Questioning allows students to using their higher order thinking skills to come up with the answers. It also provides teachers with necessary feedback. Educators should try to use hands-on examples and manipulates for students because it helps keep students focused and gives them real-world experience. The pace of instruction is important because if the teacher goes too slow or too fast, it can drastically change the student’s intake of the information. Lastly, it is important for the teacher to bring the lesson to a close. This can be done by simply giving an oral review of the information presented during the lesson. This ties the lesson together and provides closure for the student.
Script: There are two types of teaching strategies that teachers can utilize in the classroom – teacher-centered and student-centered. In a teacher-centered classroom, the teacher’s role is to present the information that is to be learned and to direct the learning process of students. Students then practice what they have learned. In the student-centered classroom, the teacher acts as a facilitator, or guide for learning. Students are more actively involved in directing and achieving their own learning.
Indicators of Good Teaching

- Students are engaged in big ideas
- Students are planning their own learning
- Students are actively involved in their own learning
- Students are involved in real life activities
- Students are involved in editing and polishing their own work to enhance their learning
- Students are reflecting on their own lives and what they believe

Script: The indicators of a good teacher are represented by the actions of the students. What are the students doing in your classroom? Are they creating and editing their own learning? If you are a facilitator of student learning and encourage students to becoming actively involved in the learning process, then you are a good educator. Students must be a part of the learning process – not a spectator. Get students involved by sharing their own ideas by working in cooperative learning environments.

Note: This chart is adapted from Touch The Future: Teach! See references slide for more information about this text.
Examples of Student Centered Learning Activities
Cooperative Learning Groups

- Encourages critical thinking
- Collaborative setting
- Allows individual accountability

Script: Cooperative learning groups or environments are a form of small-group learning community that involves students working together to achieve a common goal. These are essential for any classroom setting. They challenge students to think independently and to share their thoughts in a collaborative setting. Cooperative learning groups also allow for individual accountability for each student. This accountability holds each person in the group responsible for participating and contributing meaningful participation to the project.
Script: Reflections allow students to look inside themselves and describe what they have learned and then to analyze their own learning. Reflections also allow students to apply their learning to real world situations.
Script: Most students, and people in general, learn best by doing. Students cannot do by sitting in a chair watching a teacher demonstrate the proper technique for a particular task. Instead, teachers need to have the students doing the task by participating in real-world lab experience both inside and outside of the classroom. So much of learning and education takes part outside of the classroom – in the art room, in choir, in physical education class, on the playground. Students need to be placed in situations that allow them to think outside of the box to encourage critical thinking and foster student learning.
Script: Projects are a great way for students to engage in higher level thinking within a group setting. Projects keep students engaged in the lesson by providing hands-on learning experiences. Project based learning also encourages students to look upon themselves to see what they have learned about a specific topic.
References