Planning for Learning

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Lesson Planning, Teaching and Evaluating

- The objectives of the lesson, the learning intentions and success criteria
- What material will be used and how it will be presented
- The pace of the lesson and what activities may be used
- How to deal with students who do not understand the concepts
- Evaluation and feedback





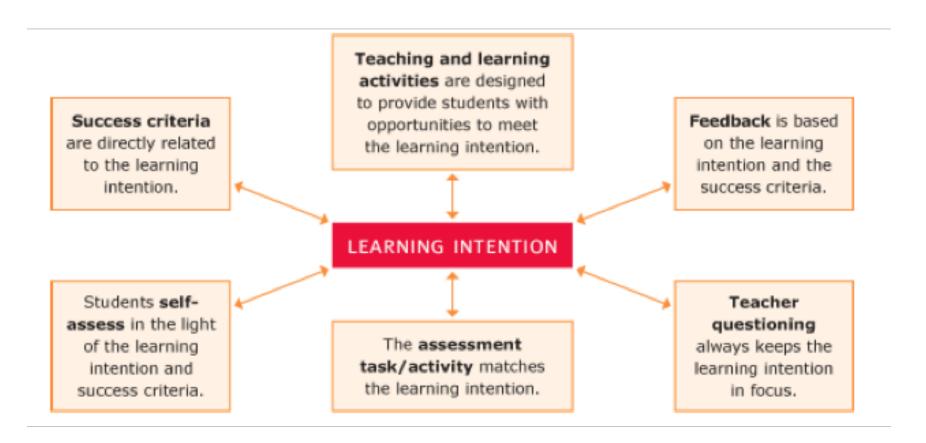
Learning goals

 When planning teachers should think carefully about the goal of the lesson (learning intention) and how the goal is achieved (success criteria).





Setting the Goals for a Lesson







Assessment

 Formative assessment is a critical part of the learning process. Leave time in the lesson to discuss learning progress with your students.





Reflecting on the Learning

- Think like your students...will they be able to see how each activity is connected to the purpose and goals of the lesson?
- They should be asking these questions:
 - What have I learnt in this activity/lesson?
 - How well have I met the success criteria?
 - How do I know I have learnt?
 - What are the next steps in my learning?





Class management

- This is easier in technical workshops where people want to attend but sometimes it will be an issue.
- Remember that you are in charge and it is your responsibility to provide an environment where people can learn.





Getting students set to learn

- Step 1: Review
 - Typically at the beginning of the lesson, review previous material that is relevant to this lesson
- Step 2: Anticipatory Set
 - Getting students to focus their attention on the material to be presented -- getting them interested or prepared for what they are about to learn





Instruction

- Step 3: Objective
 - State the objective for the lesson
- Step 4: Input and Modeling
 - Presenting new information to students
 - Modeling where appropriate as one form of instruction





Checking for understanding

- Step 5: Checking Understanding
 - Determining whether or not students are making sense of the material as the material is being presented
- Step 6: Guided Practice
 - Immediately after instruction students are given the opportunity to apply or practice what they have just learned and receive immediate feedback.





How are checking understanding and guided practice different?

- Checking understanding occurs in the process of instruction and is often a wholeclass process by observing body language or asking a simple question to the whole class.
- Guided practice takes place just after instruction has occurred and may be done individually.
- Both involve quickly assessing whether students understand what has just been presented.





Independent practice

- Step 7: Independent Practice
 - After students appear to understand the new material they are given the opportunity to further apply or practice using the new information.
 - This may occur in class or as homework, but there should be a short period of time between instruction and practice and between practice and feedback.





Teaching is not telling

- Learning how to teach is about much more than collecting a set of activities to use in the classroom.
- The ideal teacher understands how students learn and recognizes a number of factors that impinge on the quality of students' learning; and, on the basis of that understanding, chooses and employs teaching procedures and approaches to promote learning





Teaching is problematic

- Teachers who teach for understanding develop professional knowledge about teaching and improve their practice through reflecting on their practice and on the experiences and insights of other teachers.
 - This commonly involves trying to think about teaching and learning from different perspectives in order to develop deeper understandings of teaching and learning situations.





References

- Understanding and Developing Science Teachers' Pedagogical Content Knowledge
 - John Loughran, Amanda Berry and Pamela Mulhall
- Teaching Experience Handbook, Faculty of Education, Victoria University of Wellington



