

DESIGNING INSTRUCTION TO MAXIMIZE STUDENT LEARNING

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ABSTRACT

Teaching is a complex activity comprising of various behaviours. In order to achieve the targeted objectives, teachers utilize or bring to the classroom a whole lot of worlds' experiences during interaction with the students. In doing so, teachers introduce new terms, explain a phenomenon, show a picture, demonstrate a sequence of steps in an experiment, pose questions, appreciate students' responses, summaries and so on. These actions are aimed at the development of the student. These differ according to the age group of the students. In other words, which strategy is adopted for understanding which content and which skills the teachers need to develop in students is the main discussion of the paper.

Whatever the level of education, teachers aim at designing instructional strategies to maximize the students' understanding of the subject. Direct, indirect, and interactive teaching strategies are discussed here in detail. The time, effort and commitment exerted by the teacher are commensurate to successful teaching and the focus needs to be on students learning and not on the teacher's teaching.

KEYWORDS *Teaching toolbox; Exposition; Lecture; Demonstration; Concept attainment; Cooperative learning; Computer integration; Individualized teaching strategies.*

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