

CONSTRUCTIVISM: “ITS BENEFITS, ITS COSTS, AND WHAT WE SHOULD DOING.”

Team: Who Is Number 3?

Week #5

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Target Audience: K-12 Teachers In-Service

Constructivism Defined

“A philosophical position that views knowledge as the outcome of experience mediated by one’s own prior knowledge and the experience of others” (Ryder, 2008).

Teaching Styles

- ❑ Problem Based Learning
- ❑ Anchored Instruction
- ❑ Cognitive Apprenticeship
- ❑ Intentional Learning Environments
- ❑ REALs

Benefits

- ❑ Students retain knowledge better because it's integrated into their experiences (Grant, 2002).
- ❑ Students are engaged in learning and active participants in the learning process (Zain, Rasidi, & Abidin, 2012).
- ❑ Students achieve higher-order learning outcomes (Wilson, 2012).

Costs

- ❑ Students at an introductory level have no prior knowledge to build on (Jonassen, Mayes, & McAleese, 1993).
- ❑ There are increased demands on the teacher to provide authentic experiences for the students (O'Shea & Leavy, 2013).
- ❑ It can be difficult to address broad areas of curricula (Wilson, 2012).

What should we be doing?

- ❑ Providing authentic strategies for students (Brooks & Brooks, 1999)
- ❑ Changing the instructional strategies for teachers: group learning, collaboration, peer feedback (Nanjappa & Grant, 2003)
- ❑ Integrating appropriate technology into instruction to support project-based learning (Grant, 2002)

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