Designing & Organizing a Lesson

Step 1: Establishing the Objectives
You will need to write two measureable objectives that will guide the learning process. What new abilities do you want the student to come away with after your lesson?

Step 2: Introducing the Lesson
You will need to introduce your lesson in a way that grabs the students’ attention. Enhance comprehension by introducing concepts using this skill strategy:
• Preview: Have students skim over the materials you have provided for them.
• Set a Purpose: Tell students why they are learning this.
• Connect: Relate the topic to them on a personal level.
• Tap Prior Knowledge: Have them think about what they already know, or think they know, about the topic.

Step 3: Selecting the Activities
You will need to implement three different student activities to facilitate your lesson. Avoid teacher-centered activities. The goal is to have the students work, and the teacher facilitate and monitor the learning. Depending on what you are having the students engaged in, consider using three of these:
• Literacy strategies: Jigsaw a reading passage; Complete a graphic organizer (K-W-L chart, Venn Diagram, Frayer Model, Comparison Matrix, SQ3R a text); Read Aloud/Think Aloud; Pair Share; Create a visual depiction or artwork
• Notetaking Strategies: Cornell, Learning Log, Reflection Chart, Three-Column Journal, Cause & Effect Graphics, Cluster Diagram, Outline, Sequence Circle, Timeline
• Writing Strategies: freewriting, Guiding Peer Review, Cubing, RAFT, Storyboarding
• Discussion strategies: fishbowl, inner-outer circles, Socratic seminar
• Cooperative Strategies

Step 4: Lesson Closure
In order to have the students better internalize and remember the lesson, you must provide a powerful conclusion. Consider one of the following:
• Ticket-out-the-door
• Quick Q and A: What one new thing did you learn today? How could you use what you learned today? How would you summarize today’s lesson for someone who wasn’t here? What “A-Ha” moment did you have during today’s lesson? What was the most difficult concept in today’s lesson? What should I review further in our next lesson?
• Write a journal reflection and share.

Step 5: Teaching Aids and Technology Needs
Make a list of things you will need to incorporate into the lesson to make it effective. Teaching aids may include handouts, reading materials, flip charts, a power point, video clips, audio clips, etc. Also, tell your participating teacher WELL in advance if you need access to any technology.

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