FOUR (4) LEARNING MODALITIES IN TEACHING WORLD

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Teachers can use this learning theory to differentiate classroom teaching for their students. They can ensure their teaching is student-centered, equal and fair. It empowers students to learn in new ways that are the most accessible and easiest for the students. This can help the learners to have the best chance of success in the classes as possible.

A teacher can create a lessons with lots of graphics for visual learners, a physically activity lesson for kinesthetic learner, a storytime lesson for auditory learner, and a hands-on inquiry based lesson for tactile learner. Integrating each of these styles into a new lesson means can include as many students into the lesson as possible.

The four (4) learning modalities are: 1.) Visual, 2.) Auditory, 3.) Kinesthetic and 4.) Tactile.

Some students learn most through one modality and worse through others. Many students use combination, multiple or different modalities to learn effectively.

However, many educators argue that there is no evidences that human have in-built learning styles.

There are 4 Modalities of Learning

1. Visual Learning Style

Visual learner prefers to learn through images and graphics. Students who are visual learners are great in visual presentations and learn through images.
Strengths of visual learners are: a. good at identifying patterns in images; b. can tell the
differences between colors and shapes very well upon eyesight; c. neat and organized
with their workbook because they appreciate balanced imagery; and d. very good in
reading maps.

Weaknesses of visual learners are: a. struggle with big chunks of text; b. learn by
watching a video or reading a graph; c. struggle with audio-only texts such as podcasts;
and d. easily distracted from learning by movement or colors.

Teaching Ideas are: a. Model learning like guided practice and demonstrations; b. Provide
graph and image rather than articles to read; c. Encourage student to take well-organized
notes; and d. Provide graphic organizers like mind maps for the student.

2. Auditory Learning Style

Auditory learner prefers to learn through listening. Student who are auditory learner
would do well learning through listening to music or storytelling, but struggle in silence.

Strengths of auditory learners are: a. very good at hearing patterns in music; b. appreciate
storytelling as a form of teaching; c. skilled at explaining things in simple language; d.
can follow verbal directions with ease; and can quickly hear patterns in language, good
at learning foreign languages.

Weaknesses of auditory learners are: a. can be distracted in sounds around them; b.
struggle to learn in silence, such as summative tests and c. struggle reading books.

Teaching ideas are: a. Storytelling or story based instruction; b. Provide podcasts for
homework; c. Encourage conversation and social learning in the classroom; and d. Ask
the students to verbally repeat information or instructions to help them remember.

3. Kinesthetic Learning Style
Kinesthetic learning is learning through bodily movements. Students who are kinesthetic learner like to learn things through physical like doing sports.

Strengths of kinesthetic learners are: a. Can express themselves very well through dance and movement; b. strong sportspeople; c. Like to learn by moving; and d. very good in educational environments.

Weaknesses of kinesthetic learners are: a. Struggle to stay still during tests or quiet time; b. trouble paying attention to books and in other passive learning; and c. Need physical rather than theoretical experiences.

Teaching ideas are: a. Encourage role playing; and b. Allow student to move around the classroom or go outside.

4. Tactile Learning Style

Tactile learner learns through touch. They understand things best when they can physically touch the objects. They are different to kinesthetic learners because they are not focused on moving their bodies, but simply touching and manipulating the things they are working with.

Strengths of tactile learners are: a. learn best through active learning strategies; b. learn through play; c. build and manipulate things with their hands very well; and d. appreciate practical learning where they actually do something while learning.

Weaknesses of tactile learners are: a. struggle with passive learning such as reading books or listening to their teacher like the banking model of education; and b. struggle with theoretical explanations until they actually get a chance to apply theoretical ideas in real life situations.

Teaching ideas are: a. Bring many props into the classroom and allow the student to touch and play with them and b. allow the student to doodle while they listen.
References:

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