IDENTIFYING STUDENTS' LEARNING STYLES

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Keeping our students engaged is a deeply challenging job, and nothing is more frustrating than seeing them lose interest in our painstakingly prepared lesson. One smart strategy to keep their attention from going astray is to identify the different learning styles and to know how to address them.

These are the different learning styles.

1. Visual learners who learn from what they see.
2. Aural learners who learn from what they hear.
3. Verbal learners who learn from what they read or write.
4. And kinesthetic learners who learn by involving both the mind and body.

The challenge though in teaching in a classroom setting is that we are unable to tailor fit our lessons to each of our students' unique learning styles. We deal with multiple learners at a given time so it is best to incorporate skills that will acknowledge the different kinds of learners in each lesson.

One skill that surely won't fail is our ability to be engaging. We can always hold our students interest by telling interesting stories, anecdotes, trivias and injecting humor to keep the class away from boredom. It also won't hurt to use eye contact, hand and facial or head gestures to show sincerity and intensity. We should also know how to use our voice by keeping it clear and by being articulate. Also, a modulated voice can be more pleasing to the ear and the use of intonation can make us sound lively.
One other thing that can help is to use effective teaching tools. It could be a visual aid or film showing that can spark student's interest.

Another thing that we can do to ensure that our students are focused is by employing effective communication. Effective communication builds human connection so we should always listen and give our learners an opportunity to speak, and we should also call their attention when they fail to be attentive in the class. Lastly, get them involved. Encourage students to participate in role plays, speech, or skill demonstration as a way to acknowledge their uniqueness as individuals.

References:

Learning Styles
https://teach.com/what/teachers-know/learning-styles/