THE 5E MODEL

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In choosing instructional model to be used, teacher usually look for a strategy that would surely help learners to acquire the complete understanding of new concepts. Primarily, they engage the learners, motivate, and guide them into skill development. In doing so, a teacher could make use of the 5E Model, in which grounded in active learning.

The 5E Model was developed in 1987 by the Biological Sciences Curriculum Study. It promotes collaborative, and active learning in which learners work together to solve certain problem. Moreover, it also investigates new concepts by asking questions, observing, analyzing, and drawing conclusions.

This model focuses on allowing learners to understand a concept over time following a series of phases. These phases are Engage, Explore, Explain, Elaborate, and Evaluate.

The 5E Model is based on the constructivist theory of learning. It suggests people to construct knowledge and meaning from experiences. Through understanding and reflection of activities, learners will be able to settle new knowledge with the previous ideas. Moreover, Beverly Jobrack, a subject matter expert, stated that educational movements are variations of constructivism. Such are inquiry-based learning, active learning, experiential learning, discovery learning, and knowledge building.

In a constructivist classroom, educators are required to build inquiry, exploration, and assessment into their instructional approach. The teacher plays as a facilitator, providing guidance to learners to learn new concepts.

Here is the overview of the five phases of the 5E Model.
Engage

The teacher should work on the understanding of the learner’s prior knowledge and identify the gaps. It is important to establish interest relative to the upcoming concepts to make the learners ready to learn.

Explore

Learners should actively involve in exploring new concepts through concrete learning experiences. They may perform the scientific method and communicate their observations with their peers. In this case, learners learn in a hands-on way.

Explain

Teacher should ask learners to share what they learned during Explore phase. This will lead to the introduction of technical information in a direct manner. In here, the teacher can make utilize of video, computer software and other aides to understand further.

Elaborate

In a more simple explanation, this is the application of what they have learned. It would help them to deepen their understanding. The teacher may ask learners to do presentations or conduct additional investigations to strengthen the skills.

Evaluate

The assessment of learning could be formal or informal. In this particular phase, teachers can observe the learners if they have the complete grasp of the core concepts. Other than this, a teacher may also ask the learners for a self-assessment, peer-assessment, writing assignments, and tests.
Unique learning experiences rely on the teacher. Teachers who can employ the instructional models like the 5E Model in their teaching could surely build strong foundation of learners’ knowledge.

References:

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