



THE
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schools online curriculum content initiative

LEARNING DESIGN VOCABULARY

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Introduction

This vocabulary describes the teaching methods and ways of presenting learning materials and experiences that facilitate a particular kind of learning interaction, process or outcomes.

This vocabulary was originally compiled in 2002. It has had no significant updates since then. The vocabulary is not actively maintained nor applied. For current classification schemes and recommendations, refer to *TLF Metadata Application Profile*.

Identifier	Definition
Auditory learning	Learning through listening and remembering. The emphasis is on interpreting the explicit information and underlying meanings of speech through listening to tone of voice, pitch, speed and other nuances. Strategies which support this type of learning include: class discussions/debates, recitation, rhymes, speeches and presentations, reading text aloud, using a tape recorder, using verbal analogies and storytelling.
Collaborative learning	A teaching strategy whereby students are expected to share expertise and effort in order to create a common project/product. Students in the collaborative group often have similar levels of ability. (Sometimes the terms collaborative and cooperative learning are considered synonymous.)
Demonstrations	Teaching method in which explanations are given by example or experiment. (ERIC)
Experiential learning	Learning by doing -- includes knowledge and skills acquired outside of book\lecture learning situations through work, play, and other life experiences (note: do not confuse with "learning experience"). (ERIC)
Independent learning	A self-directed style of learning in which the role of the teacher is limited. An important goal of independent learning is to teach students that there are several ways to gather information and learn things.
Inquiry learning	A variety of student-centred approaches to teaching, in which the teacher acts as a guide and/or resource. The aim is to facilitate students learning how to learn not necessarily mastering a pre-determined body of knowledge.
Mentoring	A teaching and learning strategy for providing effective collaborative learning experiences for students by teachers, peers or more experienced students.
Peer tutoring	Learning and support provided by a student, or small group of students, through direct interaction with a peer who has appropriate training or experience. See also MENTORING.
Problem solving	A learning strategy which requires the applying of previously acquired knowledge to new and unfamiliar situations. The method may involve researching a specific problem, analysing various situations, group discussions, simulation games, evaluation and review and reflection.
Resource based learning	Resource-based teaching and learning is a strategy employed at all levels of schooling to promote independent learning and the effective use of information. It has been expressed through educational programs that actively involve students in the use of a wide range of information sources and formats. The aim is to promote efficient resource use that allows students to develop an understanding of the relationship between the knowledge, processes, skills, strategies and values contained within the learning process.
Tactile/kinaesthetic	Learning through moving, doing and touching. The emphasis is on



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learning	experiential, hands-on learning that require students to actively engage with the physical environment in the course of their learning. This type of learning often involves: role play, pacing while rehearsing, physical repetition or practice, learning through hands-on discovery and practice.
Visual learning	Learning through absorbing and interpreting information in visual form. The emphasis is on visual sources such as pictures, charts, maps, graphs, etc. Colour is used to highlight important points in text or illustrations. Ideas can be illustrated as a picture or graphical mapping before writing them down. Multi-media (e.g. computers, videos, photographs, interactive diagrams and filmstrips) are important aids to support visual learners.
Team teaching	An arrangement whereby a group of teachers co-operate so that their classes have contact with more than one of those teachers during a given learning session or period. (DOE)
Testing	Gathering and processing information about individuals' ability, skill, understanding, or knowledge under controlled conditions. (note: see also "evaluation" and "measurement") (ERIC)