



## Innovative teaching and learning

D. Kalyani\*, K. Rajasekaran

Department of Educational Planning and Administration, Tamilnadu Teachers Education University, Karapakkam, Chennai - 600 097, Tamil Nadu, India

(Received: 20-03-2018; Accepted 18-04-2018; Published Online 21-04-2018)

\*Corresponding author

---

### Abstract

The biggest challenge any teacher faces is capturing the students' attention, and putting across ideas in such a way that it stays with them long after they have left the classroom. For this to happen, classroom experience should be redefined and innovative ideas that make teaching learning methods more effective should be implemented. So here are some innovative ideas that will help teachers reinvent their teaching methods and make their classes interesting. The use of innovative methods in educational institutions has the potential not only to improve education, but also to empower people, strengthen governance and galvanize the effort to achieve the human development goal for the country. The purpose of this paper is to suggest useful innovative teaching methods which could easily be imparted knowledge to the students.

**Keywords:** Innovative teaching, learning, classroom

---

### Introduction

The world is moving towards competition. People struggle to learn, and to work hard to create a new learning environment. The purpose of education is not only teaching the text book and make the students understand but also adds innovative thinking creative environment and self-sufficiency. That's why institutions must include innovative communication methods that impart good knowledge. Finding innovative methods of teaching is a crucial skill. Research has shown that certain methods and approaches can truly enhance the learning skill. Some innovative methods of teaching could be the combination of various digital media types such as text, images, audio and video, into an integrated multi-sensory interactive application or presentation to convey information to the audience. In education, *student engagement* refers to the degree of attention, curiosity, interest, optimism, and passion that students show when they are learning or being taught, which extends to the level of motivation they have to learn and progress in their education. When students are engaged with the lesson being taught, they learn more and retain more. Students who are engaged in the work tend to persist more and find joy in completing the work. So make their classes interesting. Here are some innovative ideas that will help teachers reinvent their teaching methods and make their classes interesting.

*What is innovative teaching?*

Innovative teaching means creativity and novelty of the teacher which changes the style and method of teaching. All over the world, educational institutions implementing new ideas, methods, technology based innovations to enhance the students' knowledge. Innovative teaching is necessary for the present and future of education to help students to reach their full potential. Higher education should serve the long term intellectual needs of the student, for example, whether providing new material by teachers helped the student to gain new insights or opened up new channels of intellectual stimulation or enhanced student's essential and creative

thinking power? Innovative teaching is a necessity for all teachers in order to meet the educational needs of the new generations. However, teachers' competency for innovative teaching is a key factor influencing innovative teaching performance. Some research points out that many teachers lack competencies for innovative teaching!

### Methods of Innovative Teaching

#### 1. Love What You Do

You can give your best only if you truly love what you do. You will be more creative and inspired when you are not stressed. Loving your work keep you relaxed and give you room to experiment new ideas.

#### 2. Audio & Video Tools

Incorporate audio-visual materials in your sessions. Supplement textbooks with models, filmstrips, movies and pictorial material. Use info graphics or other mind mapping and brain mapping tools that will help their imagination thrive and grow. These methods will not only develop their ability to listen, but will also help them understand the concepts better. For example, you can get some oral history materials, conduct live online discussions or playback recordings of public lectures. There are a lot of smart apps for preschoolers that you can utilize to create awesome slideshows or presentations

#### 3. Brainstorm

Make time for brainstorming sessions into your classrooms. These sessions are a great way to get the creative juices flowing. When you have multiple brains focusing on one single idea, you are sure to get numerous ideas and will also involve everyone into the discussion. These sessions will be a great platform for students to voice their thoughts without having to worry about right or wrong. Set some ground rules before you start. You can go for simple brainstorming or group brainstorming or paired brainstorming

#### 4. *Classes outside the Classroom*

Some lessons are best learnt, when they are taught outside of the classroom. Organize field trips that are relevant to the lessons or just simply take students for a walk outside of the classroom. The children will find this fresh and exciting and will learn and remember the things taught faster. Role playing is most effective for students of almost any age group. You just need to customize depending on the age group. You can even use this method for teaching preschoolers; just make sure you keep it simple enough to capture their limited attention span

#### 6. *Role Play*

Teaching through role play is a great way to make children step out of their comfort zone and develop their interpersonal skills. This method comes in handy, especially when you are teaching literature, history or current events. The role playing approach will help the student understand how the academic material will be relevant to his everyday tasks

#### 7. *Welcome New Ideas*

An open- minded attitude can help you innovating new teaching methods. Though open- minded, sometimes most of us show reluctance to new ideas. If you're a teacher never do this, always try to accept new ideas even if it looks like strange at the beginning.

#### 8. *Puzzles and Games*

Learning is fun where puzzles and games are part of education. Children may not feel they're learning when their lessons are introduced through games. Puzzles and games help children to think creatively and face challenges.

#### 9. *Refer Books on Creativity*

To be a creative teacher, you need to do some research on creative ideas and techniques. There are a lot of books on creativity. Choose some of the best works and start learning, it will be helpful for your professional development as well.

#### 10. *Introduce Lessons like a Story*

Just think, why do you watch movies with much interest? You like to watch movies because there is always an interesting story to keep you engaged. Like that, learning sessions become more interesting when you introduce it like a story. If you are creative even math lessons can be related to interesting stories. With even the Knowledge and Human Development Authority (KHDA) emphasizing on schools to take measures for improving the quality of teaching and learning, these innovative ideas are sure to make teaching methods more effective.

### **Innovative Learning Methods**

#### 1. *Crossover Learning*

Learning in informal settings, such as museums and after-school clubs, can link educational content with issues that matter to learners in their lives. These connections work in both directions. Learning in schools and colleges can be enriched by experiences from everyday life; informal learning can be deepened by adding questions and knowledge from the classroom. These connected experiences spark further interest and motivation to learn.

An effective method is for a teacher to propose and discuss a question in the classroom, then for learners to explore that question on a museum visit or field trip, collecting photos or notes as evidence, then share their findings back in the class to produce individual or group answers. These crossover learning experiences exploit the strengths of both environments and provide learners with authentic and engaging opportunities for learning. Since learning occurs over a lifetime, drawing on experiences across multiple settings, the wider opportunity is to support learners in recording, linking, recalling and sharing their diverse learning events.

#### 2. *Learning through Argumentation*

Students can advance their understanding of science and mathematics by arguing in ways similar to professional scientists and mathematicians. Argumentation helps students attend to contrasting ideas, which can deepen their learning. It makes technical reasoning public, for all to learn. It also allows students to refine ideas with others, so they learn how scientists work together to establish or refute claims.

Teachers can spark meaningful discussion in classrooms by encouraging students to ask open-ended questions, re-state remarks in more scientific language, and develop and use models to construct explanations. When students argue in scientific ways, they learn how to take turns, listen actively, and 4 *Innovating Pedagogy 2015* respond constructively to others. Professional development can help teachers to learn these strategies and overcome challenges, such as how to share their intellectual expertise with students appropriately.

#### 3. *Incidental Learning*

Incidental learning is unplanned or unintentional learning. It may occur while carrying out an activity that is seemingly unrelated to what is learned. Early research on this topic dealt with how people learn in their daily routines at their workplaces.

For many people, mobile devices have been integrated into their daily lives, providing many opportunities for technology-supported incidental learning. Unlike formal education, incidental learning is not led by a teacher, nor does it follow a structured curriculum, or result in formal certification. However, it may trigger self-reflection and this could be used to encourage learners to reconceived what could otherwise be isolated learning fragments as part of more coherent and longer term learning journeys.

#### 4. *Learning by Doing Science (with remote labs)*

Engaging with authentic scientific tools and practices such as controlling remote laboratory experiments or telescopes can build science inquiry skills, improve conceptual understanding, and increase motivation. Remote access to specialized equipment, first developed for scientists and university students, is now expanding to trainee teachers and school students. A remote lab typically consists of apparatus or equipment, robotic arms to operate it, and cameras that provide views of the experiments as they unfold.

Remote lab systems can reduce barriers to participation by providing user-friendly Web interfaces, curriculum materials, and professional development for teachers. With

appropriate support, access to remote labs can deepen understanding for teachers and students by offering hands-on investigations and opportunities for direct observation that complement textbook learning. Access to remote labs can also bring such experiences into the school classroom. For example, students can use a high-quality, distant telescope to make observations of the night sky during daytime school science classes.

### 5. Embodied Learning

Embodied learning involves self-awareness of the body interacting with a real or simulated world to support the learning process. When learning a new sport, Executive summary 5 physical movements is an obvious part of the learning process. In embodied learning, the aim is that mind and body work together so that physical feedback and actions reinforce the learning process.

Technology to aid this includes wearable sensors that gather personal physical and biological data, visual systems that track movement, and mobile devices that respond to actions such as tilting and motion. This approach can be applied to the exploration of aspects of physical sciences such as friction, acceleration, and force, or to investigate simulated situations such as the structure of molecules.

### Conclusion

In this paper focuses innovative teaching and learning methods in the class room by giving the students a new way to train their skills. Encouraging teachers to adopt new method technology into the classroom and use multimedia to modify the contents of the material. It will help the teacher to represent the lessons in a more meaningful way. By

incorporating new methods students are motivated to pay more attention and retain the information better. The core objective of teaching is passing on the Information or knowledge to the minds of the student. Teaching depends upon successful mode of communication. Innovative teachers and faculty developers need each other. Instructional consultants in teaching improvement centres are the cheer leaders and reinforces of those who bring inventiveness into their teaching innovative teachers are advocates and models of effective teaching.

### References

- BPP (2000), Success in your Research and Analysis Project. • CFA Level 2 Book Edition 2000
- Chou, P. T. (2010) 'Advantages and disadvantages of ESL Coursebooks'. The Internet TESL Journal Vol. XVI (11).
- Dunn, Philip (2001) Interpretation of Accounts. Uk, Student Accountant January 2001
- Ryshke, R. (2012) What schools can do to encourage innovation. Extracted from <http://tryshke.wordpress.com/2012/02/26/what-schools-can-do-to-encourage-innovation/>
- Teo, R. & Wong, A. (2000). Does Problem Based Learning Create A Better Student: A Refelection? Paper presented at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Asia Pacific Conference on Problem -Based Learning: Education Across Disciplines, December 4-7, 2000, Singapore.
- Vaughan, T. (1998). Multimedia: Making it Work (4thEd.), Berkeley, CA:Osborne/McGraw-Hill