Understanding Student Behavior and Creating Effective Learning Environments

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New Florida Ballot System

Example: White dots Gore and Black dots Bush
Penny
What one “thing” has worked well in your class over the past year?
Encoding Specificity

Practice at recall and as close as possible to test situation.
Stress and Confidence

- Stress leads to the production of cortisol – which reduces ability to perceive and to think clearly, interfering with short-term memory

- Confidence and good mood increases production of serotonin, adrenaline, and noradrenaline, which puts us in a good mood and facilitates learning
Levels of Concern vs. Degree of Learning

Degree of learning vs. Level of Concern
Learned Helplessness
Fundamental attribution error

– For others, overemphasize dispositional attribution

– For self, much more situational attribution
Serial Position Effect
Rest
Television
Tired
Awake
Dream
Lamp
Snore
Bed
Eat
Slumber
Sound
Wake
Night
Retention During a Learning Episode

Time in Minutes

Degree of Retention

Prime-time-1

Down-time

Prime-time-2
Experimental Neurosis

- Color blocks example
While on a walk a few days ago, John was hit by a car in the middle of the afternoon just two blocks from his house.

What is the minimum number of words needed to capture the most important information above?
Teach in a Continuously Mindful Way

Students come to us with a wide variety of current personal situations, but also with a LOT of individual past personal experiences. All of this impacts the learning process. It is what makes each person unique, but the uniqueness is also what makes teaching so challenging…and rewarding.
Selected Bibliography


