Teachers’ Role in Project Based Learning

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Traditional Classroom Teaching

- Lecturer and director of instruction
- Expert
Traditional Classroom Teaching

- Teachers assigning reading materials
- Requiring students to do homework exercises
- Lectures tied to textbook materials
- Enriching the lectures with audiovisual presentations
- Grading students on the basis of their ability to remember factual information
Project-based Learning

• Resource Provider
  -provide input and language preparation

• Facilitator and Counselor
  -giving support and guidance

• Co-learner
  -learning together with the students
Pre-Project Stage

Teacher play the role of a knower

- Help students select a topic
- Help students generate ideas through brainstorming/mind-mapping
- Guide students to formulate their project objectives
- Develop a contract/proposal for the group
During-Project Stage
Teacher play the role of a consultant, a facilitator or a co-learner

- Help students gather ideas, define objectives, draw up the schedule and provide input for language skills.
- Intervene if students’ direction not practical
- Offer suggestions to solve problems.
- Respond to requests from students
Teacher, please. We have a problem. So, how could I help you?

We don't know how to find the volume of a frustum.

Do you know the formula for the volume of a cone?

Yes. Volume = …

How do you find the height of the cone removed?

Ah… No!

You have to apply the properties of similar triangles.

But how can we apply the figures?
Comments

• The teacher seeks to help the students to focus on relevant aspects.
• The teacher guides the students by asking questions and negotiating meanings with them.
• The teacher tries to frame the problems by referring to the findings of the problem.
Some Extracts

But it doesn’t make any sense.

please. This is 400, 500, …

No, it couldn’t be.
Comments

• The teachers tries to monitor the students’ strategy for solving the problem.
• The teacher attempts to guide the students’ negotiation of meaning.
Post-Project Stage

Teacher play the role of a commentator and appraiser

- Debriefing
  - Centre on what students learned during the project
  - Share the reflection
  - Provide a balanced picture of strengths and weaknesses
  - Offer suggestions for improvement
Post-Project Stage

Teacher play the role of a commentator and appraiser

- Evaluation
  - Collect and analyze feedback from students
  - Collect and analyze feedback from mentors
  - Collect and analyze feedback from parents
  - Collect and analyze feedback from school authority
  - Revise and improve the project
Summary (Education Department)

Teachers’ Performance Indicators

Professional Knowledge

• Understanding the aim
• Taking project learning as an open learning curriculum
• Being familiar with the basic steps of implementation
Summary
Professional Attitude

• Respecting students’ different views
• Well informed of current news and events
• Establishing good collaboration relationships with colleagues
Summary
Teaching Strategies and Skills

• Stimulating students’ thinking
• Making appropriate requests to students
• Providing appropriate learning materials
• Devising appropriate learning activities
• Shifting from one role to another agilely
The End