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STEM Society

Implementing the 5E's to Teach the 5E's

Megan Nas and Trisha Paul

This lesson was designed to exemplify the 5E's to college students.

Engagement: captivating student interest. (quite often by providing some sort of relevance of the topic to their lives)

The 5 E's represent a foundational teaching principle used to improve instruction. Knowing this, what could these 5 words stand for? These are 5 teaching methods or strategies that are emphasized, each with a different purpose and learning outcome.

- ❖ 5 Pieces of paper scattered around the table with one of the E words written on each piece of paper in big colorful letters
- ❖ Illustrates how engagement activities can make students curious and interested in the upcoming lesson.

Exploration: Establishing a knowledge base of the topic. These involve lower order thinking skills that are necessary for the higher order thinking skills that will be central to the activities to follow.

Having identified the 5E's, what do you think some examples of each may be?

- ❖ Define/present each part of the 5E teaching technique in conjunction with the discussion.
- ❖ Highlight goals of each aspect

Explanation: Activities that highlight understanding.

Turn to your neighbor and discuss each element of the 5E's. Talk about past classroom experiences, where these techniques have been applied, and how they affected the learning experience.

- ❖ What are some common ways that teachers present the material (ex. Lecture, video, labs, demos)? How do these effectively or ineffectively follow the 5E outline?

Elaboration: Application of knowledge.

Now that you have started thinking about what topics you may be interested in teaching, let's start brainstorming on some of the lessons as a group.

- ❖ Brainstorm ideas for each of the 5E's in the context of an individual's topic of interest. Discuss some things that could work in the lesson plan, others that may not, and why.

Evaluation: Assessment of understanding.

Reflecting on this lesson, how were the 5E's represented?

- ❖ What worked and what didn't work?
- ❖ What can be done better in future implementation of this lesson?
- ❖ How did the 5E's improve the lesson?
- ❖ Moving forward, what are some take-home messages about the 5E's and about teaching effective lessons?