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October 2014

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Approaches to Educating.

1. There are 5 different modes of representation. The 5 modes are known as real world situations, manipulative models, pictures, oral language, and written symbols.

These modes are easy to explain. For instance you could have students do a barter day between classes, the students will have prices on their items and you can require the students to show how much each item is with their fingers this would be a perfect real world situation. Another way to represent a number in a manipulative way is by having them pick a specific number and then have them use cubes. When students use those cube manipulatives they will be able to see the ones, ten, hundredth, and even thousands in some cases. It gives the students a better understanding of numbers. The next model deals with pictures this will be a little easier for the students to visualize. If you give the students the number 5 than expect them to find a picture with 5 of a specific object. The oral one would be where the teacher says a specific number and has the students repeat it. The last one which is written symbols is where the teacher has them either write the number 5 or spell it out as the number five. This will give them two different visuals of seeing the number 5. These approaches give students the opportunity to learn in more than one way, which is very important! These approaches give students the chance to visualize math in a whole different perspective.

What is the difference between the Behaviorist approach and the Constructivist approach?

Behaviorist theory believes that children will need to learn a set of preskills before attempting a harder set of skills. It’s basically saying the student needs some kind of guidance before they can do a more difficult task. Students must first know addition skills before than can do multiplication. Thus the Behaviorist theory was born saying they must learn addition before multiplication. The ability to build on what they have been thought best explains this theory.

Now on to Construcvist theory, they believe that children do their learning all by themselves with no outsides sources. Students basically learn everything required to do a skill by themselves with no teachers. I highly disagree with this method. I believe students will always achieve more when they have the proper guidance. Not an excessive amount though just the right amount so that they understand what’s required of them.

Communication is very important in mathematics. With out communication students will not be able properly learn the required skills. Teachers must practice proper communication to insure that their students are learning efficiently. Teachers no only need to communicate with their students but the parents as well. If teachers communicate with the parents they will be able to pass along the information that the students learned in class. This will give parents the opportunity to assist their students in their learning as well. I also feel like teachers must make sure their students understand that math connects to all subjects. If students are aware of this they will enjoy math more.