

# Activity Based Instruction

## Inquiry Oriented Lessons

- Meets the learning style of the student
- More hands-on
- More active participation
- Emphasizes cognitive thinking skills

## Cooperative Learning

- **Jigsaw Model** where each member of the group learns a portion of the material and then teaches it to the rest of the group.
- **Full Option Science System (FOSS)** model for mixed ability groups.
- Cooperative learning activity involves 4 students working together and taking turns with the following roles.
  1. **Reader:** this student reads all print directions.
  2. **Recorder:** this student records data, observations, predictions and estimations.
  3. **Getter:** this student assembles all of the necessary materials.
  4. **Starter:** this student oversees manipulations of the materials and ensures that all members have equal opportunity at using the hands-on materials.

<http://www.nwrel.org/msec/pub.html> Download *It's Just Good Teaching: Mathematics and Science Instruction for Students with Learning Disabilities*. Scoring guides using rubrics are also available on-line.

See *The Reading Teacher's Book of Lists for "teamwork" roles and checklist*.

## Integrated Units

- Students prefer working on a project for longer periods of time rather than stopping and starting several short lessons.
- Connects student to real world situations.
- Student able to generalize knowledge.
- Increases time on task.
- Increases creativity on the part of the teacher and the students.
- Increases teacher enthusiasm.
- Use video presentations to meet objectives of the unit.
- Assessments can reflect student work rather than the textbook's paper and pencil tests.

See *The Reading Teacher's Book of Lists*.

## Classwide Peer Tutoring (CWPT)

- Practical and easy to use.
- Students learn more by doing/teaching.
- Students prefer working with other students.
- Increases time on task.
- Allows teacher to observe and help all students, not just focusing on 1 or 2 students in need.
- Promotes social and academic skills.
- Improves performance on standardized tests.
- Allows students to respond and receive immediate feedback regarding their performance.
- Increases student learning opportunities.
- The use of "Tutor and Tutee" checklists makes the students more accountable and helps the teacher monitor student performance.

## Games

See *The Reading Teacher's Book of Lists for a variety of educational games*.

## **Hands-on Activities**

See *The Big Book of Books and Activities* for ideas on how to create books, posters and bulletin boards with simple resources from your classroom.

Use *Make Intelligence Visible: Display Learning* from the Center for Urban Education.