

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2007 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

Ashlee L. Dubach

Project Number

J0608

Project Title

Teaching Techniques

Abstract

Objectives/Goals

My goal in doing this project was first to understand what role the teachers really played. I wanted to prove that it's not just what we are being taught but it's how we learn it that really effects how well we(students) remember the material. Then I wanted to find out which techniques that teachers use that are the most effective on students. If I could narrow it down then maybe my results could help beginning teachers with their class or help the less effective teachers become better creating a new generation of enjoyable teachers in our society.

Methods/Materials

1. e-mail address; 2. Binder notebook; 3. Techniques chart with the top techniques of teachers; 4. Student chart with student reactions listed; 5. A mechanical pencil; 6. A package of lined paper; 7. Digital camera; 8. A computer; 9. A flashdrive; 10.Microsoft Word program; 11.Internet access.

Results

In the data from the three middle schools, Heritage, Quail Valley, and Pinion Mesa, I have found some interesting things regarding the teaching techniques of a middle school science teacher. I have found that eye contact with the students is one of the best ways to keep their attention, and the students react well to the technique. One thing the students really don't react at all to are the teachers facial expressions. The students seem to "zone out" when the teacher has a new expression on their face. Posture of a teacher does effect how the students react. A teacher that stands straight or carries themselves with more poise gets a better reaction than a slouchy teacher, suprisingly. Voice pitch in the classrooms is one of the best ways to get the students attention according to my data. Humor is a good way to get students to pay attention to the teacher because of the more open situation; the students don't "zone out" as easily.

Conclusions/Discussion

I proved my hypothesis is right by recording the teacher's techniques and the responses the students have. Every time the teacher would raise or lower their voice pitch the student's attention would turn to the teacher. When a humorous remark would be made the students would loosen up and concentrate more. I learned that each teacher has one specific technique that they use effectively more. I enjoyed watching how each teachers own strategies effect the students in different ways. I would change the amount of times I got to go to each classroom.

Summary Statement

I studied teaching techniques to better understand the main and most effective techniques that teachers use to teach students.

Help Received

My mom helped type some things, and she drove me to the schools where I got my information.