

Collaborative Teaching Strategies in a Stimulating Learning Environment

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Abstract

A pedagogically competent teacher uses a co-constructivist approach in their teaching to achieve the higher levels of understanding that encourage active student learning and those learning outcomes outlined in the curriculum. Collaborative strategies that the teacher uses to create a stimulating learning environment include activities that contribute to the improvement of interactional relationships between teachers and students, encourage students' motivation and active learning through insights, discovery, and research. The teacher's role is to respect their students' interests and abilities and to guide and encourage them to apply the acquired knowledge and skills. As part of the program activities of the Centre for Childhood Research of the Faculty of Teacher Education in Rijeka, students, future teachers, were taught the application of different methods and work strategies in a stimulating environment. This paper aims to present thematic workshops conducted with students, aimed at achieving learning outcomes through collaborative interaction relationships, and to present students' views collected through a questionnaire about the importance they attach to the development of competences in the field of learning and teaching. The obtained results indicate that when acquiring teaching competences, students attach the greatest importance to the adaptation of approaches, methods, and teaching strategies to students' individual abilities and interests, planning collaborative strategies that establish a stimulating atmosphere for learning and teaching, and different forms of evaluating the outcomes of educational work. They also emphasise the competence to use digital media in the teaching and learning process during active learning, which facilitates constructivist, self-regulated, contextual, and collaborative learning.

Keywords: active learning; competences; motivation; students; work methods