Bridging The Gap: Leveraging Prior Knowledge in Social Studies

State University of New York [Albany] - ETAP 623 - KNILT Course

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Unit 1
Research on Prior Knowledge in Social Studies

Objectives

- Understand sources of prior knowledge and how it developed
- Identify types of student experiences that can contribute to learning.
- Understand the relationship between knowledge and experiences.
- Explain the impact of prior knowledge and student experience on achievement

Lesson Outline

Lesson 1
Prior knowledge & Student Experiences

Lesson 2
Relationship between experiences and prior knowledge

Lesson 3
Impact on learning and achievement

Unit 2
Activating vs. Leveraging

Objectives

- Describe the purpose and function of prior knowledge.
- Define "Leveraging" prior knowledge
- Describe the purpose and function of leveraging prior knowledge.
- Analyzing opportunities for leveraging or activating prior knowledge.

Lesson Outline

Lesson 1
Activating Prior knowledge

Lesson 2
Leveraging Prior knowlege

Lesson 3
Choosing between activating and leveraging

Unit 3
Developing leverage

Objectives

- Describe conceptual understandings
- Understand disciplinary skills and thinking
- Understand how disciplinary thinking and conceptual understanding support instructional content

Lesson Outline

Lesson 1
Conceptual understanding in social studies

Lesson 2
Disciplinarythinking in social studies

Lesson 3
The Bridge: Relationship between conceptual understanding and disciplinary thinking

Unit 4
Meaningful Student Experiences & Inquiry

Objectives

- Define meaningful connections.
- Apply disciplinary thinking to investigate student experiences and meaningful connections.
- Develop inquiry around meaningful connections and student experiences.

Lesson Outline

Lesson 1
What is a meaningful connection?

Lesson 2
Developing inquiry around leverage

Lesson 3
Crossing the bridge using meaningful connections.

Unit 5
Application of Bridge framework

Objectives

- Develop leverage using components of student experience, conceptual understanding, and disciplinary thinking.
- Develop inquiry through meaningful connection and identified leverage
- Embed opportunities into existing lesson.

Lesson Outline

Lesson 1
Developing leverage

Lesson 2
Adding inquiry

Lesson 3
Embedding leverage and inquiry into lesson.