

Engaging Students With Diverse Learning Styles & Multiple Intelligence

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*Bridging the Gaps: Eliminating
Disparities in Teen Pregnancy
and Sexual Health*
June 4-6, 2014

- Funding for this presentation was made possible under contract # TP1AH000052 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health, Office of Adolescent Health.
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Objectives

- Attendees will identify their own intelligence/learning style
- Attendees will learn how to educate others using different intelligence/learning styles
- Attendees will prepare a lesson plan to adapt to a different learning style from their own – presenting that lesson to the group
- Attendees will learn strategies for incorporating diverse intelligence/learning styles into their work with youth & evidence-based curricula

Intelligence?
Learning Styles?
How do we learn?

Learning Style Theory vs. Multiple Intelligence Theory

- “Learning style theory can be defined as the way human beings prefer to concentrate on, store and remember new and/or difficult information.”
- “Multiple intelligence theory is a theoretical frame work for defining/understanding /assessing/developing people’s different intelligence factors.”

www.teachingexpertise.com • Issue 9 • Autumn 2005

“LS and MI are not the same, they are certainly not interchangeable. Students with similar intelligence factors in the MI framework can have vastly different LS, based on their biological make-up and their individual conditioning.”

What they have in common

- *A focus on process.* Learning-style models tend to concern themselves with the process of learning: how individuals absorb information, think about information, and evaluate the results.
- *An emphasis on personality.* Learning-style theorists generally believe that learning is the result of a personal, individualized act of thought and feeling.

Integrating Learning Styles and Multiple Intelligences
Harvey Silver, Richard Strong and Matthew Perini

Why incorporate a learning style model?

- Focuses on how different individuals process information
- Recognizes the role of cognitive & affective processes in learning – issues related to motivation
- Emphasizes thought as vital to learning, avoiding reliance on basic and lower-level learning activities

Learning Styles

- Visual- Learn through seeing – Body Language/Facial expressions
- Auditory- Learn through listening- Lecture/Discussions
- Tactile / Kinesthetic – Learn by moving and touching- Hands on activities

Multiple Intelligence

- Verbal/Linguistic
- Logical/Mathematical
- Musical/Rhythmic
- Visual/Spatial
- Bodily Kinesthetic
- Naturalist
- Interpersonal
- Intrapersonal

Let's put it into action!

Presentations by Attendees

“Green Light” Adaptations & MI/Learning Styles

Advice from Howard Gardner

- 1.) ***Individualize your teaching as much as possible.*** Instead of “one size fits all,” learn as much as you can about each student, and teach each person in ways that they find comfortable and learn effectively. Of course this is easier to accomplish with smaller classes. But ‘apps’ make it possible to individualize for everyone.

- 2.) ***Pluralize your teaching.*** Teach important materials in several ways, not just one (e.g. through stories, works of art, diagrams, role play). In this way you can reach students who learn in different ways. Also, by presenting materials in various ways, you convey what it means to understand something well. If you can only teach in one way, your own understanding is likely to be thin.

- 3.) ***Drop the term “styles.”*** It will confuse others and it won’t help either you or your students.

Review & Feedback

- Identified personal MI/Learning Style
- Learned how to educate others with diverse MI/Learning Styles
- Prepared a lesson for the group
- Green Light Adaptations & MI/Learning Styles
- *Any other suggestions from the group?*

Resources

- Smith, Mark K. (2002, 2008) 'Howard Gardner and multiple intelligences', *the encyclopedia of informal education*, <http://www.infed.org/mobi/howard-gardner-multiple-intelligences-and-education>.
- Silver, Harry, Strong, Richard, and Matthew Perini "Teaching for Multiple Intelligences." *Educational Leadership* (1997): 22-27, Web, 3 April, 2014
- <http://www.nesca-news.com/2013/10/howard-gardner-multiple-intelligences.html>

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