

21ST CENTURY MILLENIAL LEARNERS

by:

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Z and Y generations have already passed. 21st Century Millennial learners are here. The new generation that seems very active, alert, and smart.

Millennials are now able to maintain constant engagement and connectivity because of technology. Their reliance on information given to them has ended. Instead, they place a high priority on research and other sources to develop a comprehensive understanding of a subject.

In a hands-on, practical learning atmosphere, millennials are motivated to learn. Students want to learn by using examples from the actual world. Millennials are more likely to comprehend a topic if it is supported by examples of its practical application. Also, millennials have a stronger interest in applying and verifying their knowledge in a practical setting. For millennials, experiential learning that gives students practice using a scenario-based approach is effective.

However, according to Williams and McGuire (2002), for educators, the traits of millennial learners present unique obstacles, but they also present unique opportunities. The difference between what teachers expect from students' behavior and what students actually do is currently fairly wide.

We are the teachers in this 21st century. The teachers who are responsible for producing graduates with correct values and attitudes in a the fast-growing nation. We have to give our best to mold the young generation. It is important that relevant learning strategies be employed by all teachers.

Millennials frequently engage in social media. Hence, they take pleasure in using technology to interact with one another, exchange ideas and expertise, and learn from and discuss various topics. By incorporating communication tools like chat, forums, social media groups, and the like into their digital learning program, this tendency can be taken advantage of. This gives learning a more casual air, and students value collaborative learning's adaptability and relatability.

Moreover, Millennials adore games and pleasure. They are also influenced by things that provide instant pleasure, such compliments, accolades, points, incentives, badges, and the like. Most millennials have played video games at some point in their lives, therefore they are fans of gamified courses and like learning through them.

By considering the demands of time, we, educators can render our best services among the school's primary clientele: the learners.

Reference: Williams D. and McGuire S. (2002) The millennial learner: challenges and opportunities, retrieved from <https://quod.lib.umich.edu/t/tia/17063888.0020.014/--12-the-millennial-learner-challenges-and-opportunities?rgn=main;view=fulltext>