

LEARNING AGRICULTURE USING DIFFERENT LEARNING THEORIES AND STRATEGIES

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Teaching Agriculture as a mini-course or sector in Technology and Livelihood Education (TLE) is one thing that Agriculture teachers should focus as it provides learnings and skills that students can gain if it is properly delivered. Teachers should invest in utilizing different teaching strategies. They should also consider applying learning theories suited to a given topic or competency.

First, Agriculture teachers should have on their list is Albert Bandura's social learning theory, which states that learning occurs through observing others or modeling. Teachers can develop and establish skills in this sector by demonstrating a certain procedure, like in soil preparation, in which students should observe and then eventually executing these steps to prepare the soil in their plot. Another learning theory that Agriculture teachers should look up to is John Dewey's progressive education where learning is experiential and hands-on. This theory can be used by the teachers in planting and growing vegetables. To harvest a crop, learners have to know how to plant them, and do the proper care like watering, removing weeds around the plant, building fence, and applying pesticides if necessary to grow them healthily.

Furthermore, Agriculture teachers should also learn different teaching strategies to deliver the lessons. One teaching strategy that is very useful is the peer-assisted learning strategy, wherein a student is guided by another student to cope with the topic. The student who provides assistance to another student is making sure that his classmate is learning. However, in this strategy, students can work together like a buddy where they can help each other to accomplish the task. Another teaching strategy is the use of

collaboration. According to Manimbo (2024) on his innovation called “Project VOM: Volunteers for the Operations of a Multimeter”, he emphasized the importance of collaboration among teachers to help learners improve their performance in a specific learning competency. He collaborated with his co-teachers to deliver the lessons and assist the learners in using a multimeter. He found out that through collaboration learners’ performance in using a multimeter has improved. This teaching strategy can also be utilized by Agriculture teachers. They can tap their colleagues to work together in a project or program for Agriculture students. They can work collaboratively and share some effective teaching strategies to better deliver the competencies.

Another teaching strategy that surely facilitates learning Agriculture is the use of actual tools and materials in the delivery of the content. While some teachers have to endure the lack of tools and materials in their teaching station, it is a must for them to find ways to augment students’ needs when dealing with Agriculture. Providing actual tools and farm implements is a great help to deliver the lesson. Having materials to be used during hands-on activities mirrors excitement among students. When they have materials, they can work happily. It also alleviates the pressure on the teachers, because learning is possible and skills acquisition is easy.

These are some of the teaching strategies and theories that will help Agriculture teachers to facilitate the delivery of the lesson on their Agriculture classes. This may be helpful, but teachers have to remember that teaching without dedication and perseverance will not work.

References:

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