

Practice #5 Critical Thinking Skills Are Taught.

"It is the supreme art of the teacher to awaken joy in creative expression and knowledge." - Albert Einstein

"Too often we give children answers to remember rather than problems to solve." - Roger Lewin



Purpose:

- To inspire excellence and insure that students are able to use higher order strategies to think, to problem solve, to draw conclusions, and to form and justify opinions.
- To strengthen their test-taking aptitude, studying skills, and problem-solving techniques.
- To better prepare students for the highly competitive workforce of the future.

Implementation Considerations:

- 1) Using Bloom's Taxonomy, are your questions open-ended and asking students:
 - to apply and analyze concepts?
 - to synthesize the elements?
 - to evaluate the information?
- 2) What brain friendly teaching strategies such as novelty, music, movement, and action are you using to engage students' brains?
- 3) How are you offering opportunities for students to process information and experience group problem-solving? i.e. Pair/Share, Cooperative groups, etc.
- 4) What type of critical listening strategies are incorporated into your lessons?
- 5) Are students being given opportunities to:
 - Brainstorm
 - Use analogies and metaphors
 - Create visual representations of concepts i.e. Venn diagrams
- 6) How are lessons integrated to weave critical thinking strategies into the content and extension activities?
- 7) Are choices of authentic assessments offered to check for student understanding?