South Dakota State University

ECE 361: Methods and Materials in Early Childhood Education

Concepts addressed in this course: Major categories, advantages, and appropriate uses of instructional strategies: Revisiting

Students should refer to:

Specifically, students should review:
I. Effective Thinking
   a. Chaos
      i. Raw ideas are generated, do not find flaws immediately
         1. Allow time for incubation that leads to true creativity
         2. Finding flaws kills creativity.
      ii. Effective thinking requires that we allow ourselves to live in chaos – for a little while.
      iii. Incubation time allows raw ideas to grow into meaningful concepts
   b. Developing Creativity and Synchronicity
      i. Conversations of possibilities
      ii. Be aware of attack thoughts
      iii. Validate all ideas – even ones not fully developed
      iv. Synchronicity means that everything is connected—even random, disjointed thoughts can be woven together into something meaningful.

II. Revisiting Ideas with Children
   a. Reggio Emilia Approach
      i. Reconnecting with ideas from previous experiences
         1. Re-launching discussions
         2. Using visual strategies to recall and remember experiences
            a. Pictures
            b. Drawings
            c. Structures
      ii. Using documentation panels as a strategy for remembering
      iii. Recreating the same idea with a new medium
   b. Inquiry Based Learning: Revisiting Ideas to Connect and Develop Something Meaningful
      i. Reframing the questions & revisiting prior experiences
      ii. Extending learning through discussion of revisited ideas

Helpful websites include:
Chaos & Synchronicity: http://www.thunderboltthinking.com/chaosandsync.htm

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