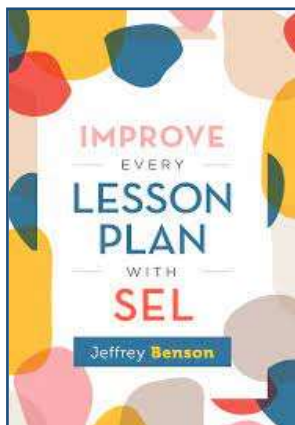


บทปริทัศน์หนังสือ (Book review)



Title: Improve every lesson plan with SEL

Authors: Jeffrey Benson

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Number of pages: 176 pp.

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Introduction

This book is about improving every lesson plan with social emotional learning (SEL). It is a helpful book for educators and others at every level. It has seven chapters and an epilogue. It also has an introduction and a chapter-by-chapter-lesson-planning guide. Review:

When developing lesson plans it is important to make every goal explicit. Doing this makes your lesson plans helpful from the very start. This will help students to understand the “students will be able to” (SWBATs) of the lesson. Helping students understand the SWBATs may take a little time, but it can be very helpful. We should identify the SEL skills we wish to promote at every level.

Skills for self: emotional self-awareness, personal goal setting and identifying strengths and weaknesses. Interpersonal skills: how others feel, working with similarities and differences and communicating with others. Skills as a community member: having an impact on your community, socially responsible decision making and contributing to greater good. At times we may need to deal with racism when setting our SWBATs.

Turn-and-talks are a way of getting students to talk about the lesson with a partner. We would like to know: how confident your partner is about today’s work, are you feeling the same as your partner about the work and is there a question you want to ask your partner to help? Praise is always important for students.

At the start of the lesson, it is essential to gain students’ Interests and motivation. If we greet every student they will feel welcomed. Classroom jobs can also be helpful.

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A “Do Now” activity at the beginning of the class helps students transition into class. It may only take a couple of minutes or so. It is best to give students options in the “Do Now” activities to get them ready for the class.

In the process of teaching, it is important to assess prior learning. We need to do this for all students. Each student is unique so we need to take this into account. Assessing the prior learning in as many ways as possible is needed.

It is important to know that students can learn a great deal by means other than direct instruction which is lecturing. Student exploration and experimentation are important for learning. We can provide direct instruction while being playful, wise, demanding, caring whole adults. Sometimes we need “100 repetitions” for students. This is a theory that students don’t magically change—they grow. Lecturing is rarely a good a good pedagogy. Notetaking is helpful for students.

In every lesson it is important to provide time to experiment and discover. Students learn by thinking and connecting, holding and turning, erasing and restarting, pondering and checking. We may call this “messing about” to learn. We can help to develop student SEL skills through emotional self-awareness, identifying strengths and supports, working similarities and differences and contributing to the greater good. Students learn by constructivism by directly experiencing some interplay with ideas and materials.

Formative assessment is essential to teaching. This is difficult in many schools that have many students, but it is essential to try to provide individual formative assessment to each student. Formative assessment can help develop SEL skills in students.

Closure is an important part of every lesson. We should take a few minutes to close each lesson before the bell rings to end class. If homework is given, it is important to have them talk about this with a classmate.

Critique

This is an excellent book to help educators. It would be helpful to read the entire book to go step-by-step with the process.

Reference

Benson, J. (2021). *Improve every lesson plan with sel*. Alexandria, VA: ASCD.