

# TeachME Professional Development

## Hands-On Teaching and Learning

**1. Hands-on learning leverages interactive, engaging educational actions that require the student to:**

- A. Complete textbook learning at home, on their own time
- B. Compile a portfolio of relevant projects to demonstrate their learning
- C. Work harder to keep up with their peers
- D. Be an active participant in their learning journey

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**2. What is the neurological rationale for the importance of hands-on learning?**

- A. Passive instruction is actually easier for the brain to handle, making tactile learning a challenge
- B. Tactile work and relevant, real-world problems engages brains more than passive instruction
- C. Passive learning stimulates the amygdala to retain more information
- D. Tactile learning does not occur in the brain at all, stimulating muscle learning more directly

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**3. Can hands-on learning be used for groups of students?**

- A. Yes, but it's more effective when attempted alone, so use this strategy in groups with care
- B. No; hands-on learning is exclusively helpful when a child is taught alone
- C. Yes — and it can help a student learn practical communication and SEL skills, too
- D. No, but this makes it a great choice for remote education

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**4. How might hands-on learning help a student be more competitive for internships and (later) jobs?**

- A. Hands-on experience with specific tools or processes is very attractive to future employers
- B. Hands-on experience teaches a child that academic work isn't real work
- C. Hands-on learning doesn't prepare a child for the workforce at all
- D. Hands-on learning is only useful if a future employer has specifically requested it

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**5. What are a few ways that hands-on learning can be incorporated for remote students?**

- A. Requiring remote students to come into the classroom for a few days a month
- B. EdTech, remote activities, and strategically-planned community involvement
- C. Hands-on learning is strictly an in-person teaching tool
- D. Cooking, cleaning, and community events

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**6. How might teachers who wish to invest in hands-on learning decorate their classrooms?**

- A. With minimalist spaces, with few toys, so as to provide a blank slate
- B. With clearly-labeled toys that are accompanied with specific directions for play
- C. With open spaces and fun, brightly-colored, tactile objects
- D. The way that the teacher sets up the classroom does not matter

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**7. Should preschool children be told how to play or guided in open exploration?**

- A. Children should be told how to play; this helps set expectations for adult life
- B. How to play -- this reduces chances for error and keeps children safe
- C. Children should just be guided and left to explore for three minutes, and then directed afterwards, so as not to waste time
- D. Guided in open exploration — this can help cement their sense of discovery and critical thinking skills

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**8. What's a simple way that teachers can provide many of the benefits of hands-on learning without needing to expend the energy or resources associated with revamping entire classrooms?**

- A. Providing funny, relatable, or dramatic context, so students can connect with the subject matter at hand
- B. Bringing one specific prop to class
- C. Asking children to imagine that they are completing a specific activity
- D. Hands-on learning requires a certain investment level; there are no shortcuts

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**9. Why is it sometimes appropriate to give students problems with no clear, defined, or clean answer?**

- A. Students are better off if they learn frustration early.
- B. There is no reason that this is helpful for students.
- C. This is more true-to-life, and allows students a little more freedom over the problem-solving process
- D. It is often easier for teachers to provide these types of problems.

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**10. Why is it a good idea to ask students to help you ‘teach’ the other students, each in turn?**

- A. This removes some of the work from a teacher's busy day.
- B. Asking students to help teach will help students learn the subject more fully than when they take something in more passively
- C. This will create a competition among the students that can only help foster academic growth
- D. This is actually a bad practice, and will not help foster hands-on learning

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