

68. Effective Techniques to Improve Teaching Practices in India

Dr. V.R. Balaji

Associate Professor, Department of ECE, Sri Krishna College of Engineering and Technology, Coimbatore.

balajivr@skcet.ac.in

Education, like almost every other area of our society, has evolved in leaps and bounds in the recent years. The teaching practice is not a “teaching perfection” which emphasizes that practice implies continuously working to get better performance. Becoming an effective teacher involves seeking out knowledge from various inputs that can enable you to reflect on and to improve the teaching and learning. Teaching practice is a set of skills supporting the overall work, and improving those skills day by day. Traditional teaching techniques are mainly based on how a teacher explains a topic and students understanding capability. But education today, revolves more around encouraging the student to awaken their curiosity and desire to learn. The use of technology in the classroom has simply given education a new lease of life allowing us to approach old ideas in new ways. There are various practices for effective engineering teaching which are followed. The Flipped Classroom Model basically involves encouraging students to prepare the lesson before the class. The class becomes a dynamic environment in which students elaborate on what they have already studied.

Students prepare a topic at home so that the class the next day can be devoted to answering any questions they have about the topic. This allows students to go beyond their normal boundaries and explore their natural curiosity. The design thinking technique is based on resolving real-life cases through group analysis, brainstorming, innovation and creative ideas. Although “Design Thinking” is a structured method, in practice it can be quite messy as some cases may have no possible solution. However, the Case Method prepares students for the real world and arouses their curiosity, analytical skills and creativity. An organization’s success depends upon the building the quality of the relationships of its people. When co-workers realize that their colleagues are caring, supportive and focused on doing the right thing, then great things can follow. This is applicable to student-teacher relation also. This places an important focus on mindset and attitude of students. Rather than getting pulled into the sour attitudes of disillusioned students, try to focus on the positive aspects of the students. Be positive, regardless of the challenges, you will find that like-minded students will be drawn. To focus on students experiences don’t limit yourself to building relationships with students who share a similar character or subject matter. Rather, find students who like to focus on activities that are best for the children. This can include school wide learning projects, social service activities or special functions and assemblies. One of the most gratifying parts of our job is attending a large group activity where students go above and beyond in learning. We also found that out-of-the-classroom experiences such as guest lectures and technical interactions

really set the best learning experience for students. The explosion of connection in our culture due to technology has been nothing short of amazing. With a few quick search terms and some time on the computer, a teacher can find examples of good practice and the research that supports it. Not only will you be able to take away specific tips for improving your skills such as organizing student work, maximizing the effectiveness of assignments. But you will also be able to make connections with students who otherwise would be unavailable to you. Teaching looks like an individual profession. To building Collegiality with students the teacher, usually the sole adult in classroom has the responsibility to work with a group of children on a certain subject over the course of a year. Digging deeper, however, reveals that successful teachers are far from alone in their profession, but instead have built strong relationships with students over time. Teachers just naturally knew what to teach and when to teach it. Content sprang miraculously from their minds, got written down in old pen-based plan books and magically became a part of every child's classroom experience. Content flowed effortlessly from the teacher to the student and all was well in the classroom. A deep understanding of curriculum is not enough to meet your class's content needs. Excellent teachers have always needed to stay current on their content as it evolved over the years. Research shows again and again that the most efficient way to improve content knowledge is to sit and work with colleagues who have the same responsibilities. Use these opportunities to discuss best practices in the classroom, deepening content knowledge and sharing

effective learning strategies. The teacher has the responsibility to obtain feedback from students on time basis. This enables you to get feedback about the learning that has transpired in a particular class period or after a specific activity. More often than not, we reflect on our teaching in isolation, without realizing that our own students can be a great source of feedback on teaching and learning that takes place in our classrooms on a day-to-day basis. This type of input comes too late to be of use to you and your students during the current semester. After reviewing their responses, decide what you can and will change and what you either cannot change or find pedagogically unwise to change. Curiosity is the main driver of learning. As a basic principle of learning, it makes little sense to force students to memorize large reams of text that they will either begrudgingly recall or instantly forget. The key is to let students focus on exploring an area which interests them and learn about it for themselves. To improve the teaching learning process there is an array of free online learning tools available which teachers can use to encourage the students and in turn make them engage which leads to participation and having a sense of fun in the classroom. The teachers can create an interactive and dynamic classroom environment using online quizzes to test student's knowledge and develop their learning skills for betterment.