Engage the Brain: How to Design for Learning That Taps into the Power of Education

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Summary

Research on the brain shows that emotion plays a key role in learning, but how can educators apply that research in their day-to-day interactions with students? What are some teaching strategies that take advantage of what we know about the brain?

Engage the Brain answers these questions with easy-to-understand explanations of the brain’s emotion networks and how they affect learning, paired with specific suggestions for classroom strategies that can make a real difference in how and what students learn. Readers will discover how to design an environment for learning that

- makes material relevant, relatable and engaging
- accommodates tremendous variability in students’ brains by giving them multiple options for how to approach their learning
- incorporates Universal Design for Learning (UDL) principles and guidelines
- uses process-oriented feedback and other techniques to spark students’ intrinsic motivation.

Author Allison Posey explains how schools can use the same “emotional brain” concepts to create work environments that reduce professional stress and the all-too-common condition of teacher burnout.

Real-world classroom examples, along with reflection and discussion questions, add to the usefulness of Engage the Brain as a practical, informative guide for understanding how to capture the brain’s incredible power and achieve better results at all year levels, in all learning areas.

Other Resources

- Emotional Poverty in All Demographics: How to Reduce Anger, Anxiety, and Violence in the Classroom (AHA8740)
- All Learning is Social and Emotional: Helping Students Develop Essential Skills for the Classroom and Beyond (119033)