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# TEACHING for LIFELONG LEARNING

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How to Prepare Students  
for a Changing World



ELLIOTT SEIF

foreword by Jay McTighe



**Hawker Brownlow**  
Education a Solution Tree company



# Table of Contents

*Reproducible pages appear in italics.*

About the Author.....	xiii
Foreword by Jay McTighe.....	xv
Introduction.....	1
Education for Lifelong Learning.....	6
About This Book.....	8
My Hope for This Book.....	10
<i>Reflections–Introduction</i> .....	12
<i>Action Steps–Introduction</i> .....	13
<i>Learning Principles and Suggestions for Teaching and Learning</i> .....	14
CHAPTER 1	
Understanding Educator Goals That Support Students’ Lifelong Learning.....	17
Two Different Learning Examples.....	18
Scenario One.....	18
Scenario Two.....	19

Lifelong Learning Goals . . . . .	21
Goal One: Developing a Growth Mindset in Students . . . . .	22
Curiosity . . . . .	22
Essential Questions . . . . .	23
Goal Two: Building a Foundation of Key Understandings and Skills . . . . .	26
Identifying Core Content . . . . .	27
Identifying Foundational Skills . . . . .	30
Goal Three: Deepening Learning and Developing Independent Learners . . . . .	32
Goal Four: Broadening and Enriching Experiences . . . . .	33
Reading Choices . . . . .	34
Unit and Theme Options . . . . .	35
Enrichment Options . . . . .	35
Passion Projects . . . . .	36
<i>Reflections—Chapter 1</i> . . . . .	37
<i>Action Steps—Chapter 1</i> . . . . .	38
<i>Goals, Experiences, and Suggestions</i> . . . . .	39

## CHAPTER 2

<b>Adapting Instruction for Lifelong Learning . . . . .</b>	<b>41</b>
A Musical Example . . . . .	42
Overview: The Four Phases of Instruction . . . . .	43
Phase One: Setting the Stage . . . . .	43
Phase Two: Building the Foundation . . . . .	44
Phase Three: Deepening Learning . . . . .	44
Phase Four: Providing Closure . . . . .	46
A Four-Phase Example . . . . .	46
Underlying Principles of Lifelong Learning Instruction . . . . .	47
Research-Based Learning . . . . .	47
Productive Struggle and Independent Learning . . . . .	48
Growth and Improvement Through Assessment and Feedback . . . . .	49
Learning Progressions . . . . .	50
Phase-Related Instructional Strategies . . . . .	51

Phase One Strategies . . . . .	51
Activators . . . . .	52
Goal Sharing and Question Discussions . . . . .	52
Productive Question Development . . . . .	53
Context Providers . . . . .	53
KWL Activity . . . . .	54
Arts and Artifact Activities . . . . .	54
Phase Two Strategies . . . . .	54
Guided Concept-Development Activities . . . . .	55
Sequencing and Patterning Activities . . . . .	56
Reading-for-Understanding Activities . . . . .	56
Writing Process and Writer’s Workshop . . . . .	58
Research-Inquiry Skill-Building Activities . . . . .	59
Thinking Routine Activities . . . . .	60
Cooperative Learning Activities . . . . .	61
Phase Three Strategies . . . . .	63
Phase Four Strategies . . . . .	64
Strategies for All Phases of Instruction . . . . .	64
Interactive Notebooks . . . . .	64
Open-Ended Assignments . . . . .	66
Performance Tasks and Projects . . . . .	68
Visual Learning Tools . . . . .	72
Self-Reflection Activities . . . . .	72
Lesson Design . . . . .	74
<i>Reflections—Chapter 2 . . . . .</i>	<i>76</i>
<i>Action Steps—Chapter 2 . . . . .</i>	<i>77</i>
<i>Lifelong Learning Instruction Recommendations . . . . .</i>	<i>78</i>
<i>Instructional Plan for a Unit of Study . . . . .</i>	<i>79</i>

## CHAPTER 3

**Assessing for Lifelong Learning . . . . . 81**

Diagnostic Assessments . . . . .	82
Formative Assessments . . . . .	83
Formative Assessment Types . . . . .	84
Formative Assessment Principles . . . . .	85

Develop and Share Core Target Goals . . . . .	85
Provide Examples of Excellent, Proficient, and Poor Work . . . . .	86
Give Precise Feedback and Suggest Specific Improvement Steps . . . . .	86
Engage Students in the Improvement Process . . . . .	86
Don't Grade Students During the Improvement Process . . . . .	87
Summative Assessments . . . . .	87
Assessments That Function Formatively and Summatively . . . . .	88
Limited-Response Assessments . . . . .	88
Interactive Notebooks . . . . .	90
Open-Ended Assignments . . . . .	91
Performance Tasks and Projects . . . . .	92
Visual Learning Tools . . . . .	93
Self-Reflections . . . . .	93
Informal and Criterion-Referenced Assessments . . . . .	94
Rubrics . . . . .	94
Portfolios . . . . .	95
Developing Portfolios . . . . .	97
Presenting Portfolios . . . . .	98
Assessment Principles . . . . .	99
Create a Powerful Process . . . . .	99
Create Mastery, Not Mystery, Assessments . . . . .	99
Treat Assessment as a Friend, as an "Act of Love" . . . . .	100
<i>Reflections—Chapter 3</i> . . . . .	102
<i>Action Steps—Chapter 3</i> . . . . .	103
<i>Audit of Current Assessments</i> . . . . .	104

## CHAPTER 4

## Developing a Lifelong Learning Curriculum . . . . . 105

Curriculum Characteristics That Promote Lifelong Learning . . . . .	106
Focuses Learning Around a Core Set of Understandings, Big Ideas, and Essential Questions . . . . .	106
Actively Engages and Develops Student Curiosity and Interest . . . . .	107
Integrates the Learning and Practice of Key Lifelong Learning Skills . . . . .	108
Organizes Instruction to Support Lifelong Learning Education Goals . . . . .	108

Includes Varied and Valid Assessments . . . . .	109
Provides Opportunities to Build on Previous Learnings, Learn From Helpful Feedback, and Grow Learning Over Time . . . . .	109
Promotes Coherence and Learning Progressions . . . . .	110
Includes Many Types of Materials and Resources, Including Technology . . . . .	110
Takes Into Account Diverse Student Abilities, Interests, and Needs . . . . .	111
Encourages Interdisciplinary Connections. . . . .	111
Builds In Outside and Authentic Learning Experiences . . . . .	112
Is Well Organized and Easy to Use . . . . .	112
Three Ways to Use Lifelong Learning Characteristics to Improve the Curriculum . . . . .	113
Analyze the Current Curriculum Against the Characteristics of a Lifelong Learning Curriculum . . . . .	113
Select and Adopt a Lifelong Learning–Friendly Curriculum . . . . .	114
Modify the Curriculum Using Understanding by Design . . . . .	114
Unit Redesign With UbD . . . . .	117
Unit Planning Stage One: Identifying Lifelong Learning Goals . . . . .	117
Unit Planning Stage Two: Identifying Key Assessments . . . . .	118
Unit Planning Stage Three: Planning Instruction . . . . .	118
Curriculum Guides for Parents and the Community at Large . . . . .	119
<i>Reflection Questions–Chapter 4 . . . . .</i>	121
<i>Action Steps–Chapter 4 . . . . .</i>	122
<i>Curriculum Rating System . . . . .</i>	123
<i>Citizenship Unit for Elementary School Students . . . . .</i>	125
<i>Science Unit for Middle School Students . . . . .</i>	129
<i>Poetry Unit for High School Students . . . . .</i>	133

## CHAPTER 5

### Including Project–Based Learning and Civics Education . . . . . 137

Project-Based Learning . . . . .	138
PBL and Lifelong Learning Knowledge Goals and Skills . . . . .	143
Instruction . . . . .	144
PBL and Assessment . . . . .	148

Civics Education .....	150
Develop a Classroom Current Events Program .....	150
Regularly Examine Current Events at All Levels .....	150
Integrate Current Events Into Courses and Programs .....	151
Rethink Instruction and Assessment .....	152
Create a Strong Civics Curriculum .....	152
<i>Reflections—Chapter 5</i> .....	156
<i>Action Steps—Chapter 5</i> .....	157

## CHAPTER 6

## Taking the Next Steps ..... 159

Essential Features of Lifelong Learning Classrooms .....	159
Steps Toward a Lifelong Learning Education: Change Principles .....	161
Plan Lofty Goals and Exert Discipline in Implementing Them .....	162
Work to Get There Methodically and Gradually .....	162
Try Several Ideas Before Deciding on One to Implement .....	163
Plan Ahead and Be Cautious .....	163
Two Examples of Putting These Principles Into Practice .....	164
An Elementary Teacher Fosters Lifelong Learning .....	164
A Secondary Teacher Fosters Lifelong Learning .....	167
The Four-Phase Instructional Framework for Planning and Implementing Lifelong Learning .....	170
Step One: Set the Stage .....	170
Develop an Initial Understanding of What a Lifelong Learning Education Means .....	170
Pose and Discuss Initial Essential Questions .....	171
Create a Lifelong Learning Education Mission and Vision .....	172
Explore the Student Outcome Implications of a Lifelong Learning Education .....	173
Analyze Current Lifelong Learning Education Strengths and Obstacles .....	173
Develop an Initial Implementation Plan .....	174
Step Two: Build the Foundation .....	175
Determine and Share What Is Currently In Place .....	175
Research, Pilot, and Incorporate New Strategies .....	175

Revisit and Reexamine the Mission, Vision, Outcomes, and Implementation Plan . . . . .	175
Step Three: Deepen Learning . . . . .	175
Pilot, Implement, and Continue to Refine Ideas and Practices . . . . .	175
Develop Original Ideas for Implementing Lifelong Learning . . . . .	176
Share With and Learn From Others . . . . .	176
Step Four: Provide Closure . . . . .	176
Continue to Refine the Mission, Vision, and Practices . . . . .	176
Communicate and Share Ideas and Best Practices With Others . . . . .	176
<i>Reflections—Chapter 6 . . . . .</i>	<i>178</i>
<i>Action Steps—Chapter 6 . . . . .</i>	<i>179</i>
<i>Designing a Lifelong Learning Education Professional Development Plan . . .</i>	<i>180</i>
<i>Planning Tool for Creating a Mission and Vision Statement . . . . .</i>	<i>182</i>
<i>Lifelong Learning Education Analysis . . . . .</i>	<i>183</i>
Epilogue . . . . .	185
References and Resources . . . . .	189
Index. . . . .	205





# Foreword

By Jay McTighe

I am writing this foreword near the end of the 2020 calendar year as the world remains in the grip of the coronavirus pandemic. This unexpected and catastrophic phenomenon has resulted in more than a million and a half deaths worldwide to date, caused global economic turmoil, and disrupted all facets of normal life. Sadly, the pandemic offers a sobering reminder to educators that we are no longer educating students for a stable and predictable world. To the contrary—modern schooling must equip learners to face an increasingly complex, interconnected, and unpredictable world. No longer will success be determined by who can remember the most or who scores highest on standardized tests. Indeed, this book's title signals its focus on preparing students to understand key concepts, to transfer their learning, and to keep learning new things independently.

This book is conceptually rich and centers on the need to prepare students for a lifetime of learning. Dr. Seif defines and describes why this is necessary and illustrates the process of a lifelong learning education with a description of research-based learning principles (that he and I developed together) and rich examples of learning from the world of gaming, music, and sports. These critical ideas are then brought to life through an impressively comprehensive discussion on how they impact educational goals, teaching methods, assessment practices, and curriculum development. He introduces a practical and proven four-phase instructional model featuring a variety of interactive techniques that teachers can use to engage learners in active meaning making. Additional online resources supplement the many and varied samples that are provided in the text.

Dr. Seif's long and rich career includes time as a teacher, administrator, curriculum director, college professor, and national consultant that has prepared him to author this important work. He combines the scholarship and research acumen of an academic with the practicality of a lifelong educator working in, and with, both public and private schools. Seif walks his talk. While endorsing the use of thoughtful classroom questions to engage learners in making meaning, he includes reflection questions, along with suggested action steps, at the conclusion of each chapter to actively engage his readers in making sense of the text and making plans to apply its ideas.

In sum, *Teaching for Lifelong Learning* is rich in ideas for a modern learning system. The education world is flooded with new publications on every conceivable topic—yet not all are of equal value. To invoke a cuisine-based analogy: if the plethora of educational blog posts provide snacks, and articles in educational journals offer a quick lunch, this book provides a gourmet meal—with a selection of fine wines and dessert. So, begin your reading with a hearty appetite for learning and savor each delectable chapter!

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