Chapter Four

Individual Differences:
Intelligence, Cognitive and
Learning Styles, and Creativity

The Big Picture

- What is intelligence?
- What can a teacher do to make students more intelligent?
- Should teachers adapt to differences in intelligence by grouping students according to ability level?
- What is creativity, and how does it differ from intelligence?
- How can teachers encourage and develop creativity in their students and in themselves?

Characteristics of Creative Individuals

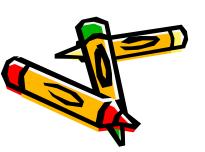
- See problems in new ways
- They persevere when presented with an obstacle.
- Like being creative
- Are open to new experiences
- Are willing to take sensible risks
- Are intrinsically motivated
- Seek out supportive environments

Teaching Students of Varying Levels: Ability Grouping

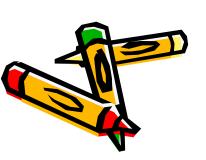
- Ability Grouping
 - Within-Class Ability Grouping
 - Between-Class Ability Grouping
 - Regrouping
 - Joplin Plan
 - Advantages and Disadvantages

Creativity in your classroom

- Model creativity
- Encourage your students to make assumptions and then question them.
- Encourage sensible risk taking
- Promote persistence
- Allow mistakes
- Provide time and space for students to be creative.



Does creativity differ from intelligence?



What is Intelligence?

Intelligence

capacity for goal-directed and adaptive behavior

What is Intelligence?

- IQ is a score on a test
 - it is not something you have
- Is intelligence singular or multiple abilities?

Are There Multiple Intelligences?

Factor Analysis

- statistical procedure that identifies clusters of related items (called factors) on a test
- used to identify different dimensions of performance that underlie one's total score

General Intelligence (g)

- factor that Spearman and others believed underlies specific mental abilities
- measured by every task on an intelligence test

Theories of Intelligence

- Spearman vs. Thurstone
 - "g" or multiple components??
- Sternberg's Triarchic Theory
 - Analytical Intelligence
 - (book smarts)
 - Creative Intelligence
 - (novel ideas)
 - Practical Intelligence
 - (street smarts)

Componential Subtheory

- Metacomponents used to decide what to do, monitor it while it is being done, and evaluate it after it is done.
- Performance components used to get things done.
- Knowledge acquisition components—used to learn how to get things done.

RESULT:

Analytical abilities: Abilities to analyze, judge, evaluate, compare and contrast.



- Solving relatively novel problems.
- Automatization

RESULT:

Creative abilities:

Abilities to create, discover, invent, imagine, and explore.

Contextual Subtheory

- Adaptation to existing environments.
- Shaping of existing environments to modify them.
- Selection of different environments.

RESULT:

Practical abilities: Abilities to put into practice, apply, use, and implement.

Theories of Intelligence

- Gardner's Multiple Intelligences
 - logical/mathematical
 - linguistic
 - spatial
 - musical
 - bodily kinesthetic
 - interpersonal
 - Intrapersonal
- Talent v. Intelligence??