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My Learning Garden

My beliefs surrounding learning can be represented in this anchor chart as a garden. There are many things that come into consideration when learning takes place. I believe all the things that are essential for learning to take place can be represented in my garden below:

Connections

I believe a fence is a great way to represent connections. A fence is connected and protects what is growing inside the garden. Students need to make connections to learn.

Prior Knowledge

A great representation for prior knowledge in a garden would be a tree. A tree keeps on growing, like knowledge. Students need to build on prior knowledge to learn.

Importance

For learning to take place students must see the importance of the subject. I believe if students do not see the importance of the subject they will not want to learn. I would represent importance with a watering can because without a watering can your plants will not get water for your garden to grow. I think doing demonstrations, projects, making conjectures and finding the conclusions in interesting ways allows students to learn because they find it important. This is also a fun, and enjoyable way to learn in a hands on way. People learn by doing, and realizing the importance of the subject, which can be done by relating the subject to students and their interests. To show fluency students need to create, evaluate, and analyze.

Understanding

Understanding can be represented as the sun because plants need sunlight to grow. For students to learn they must also have an understanding of what/why they are being taught. Understanding a key element to learning, just like sunlight is for plants to grow. Also understanding there is always something else to know like metaphysics is a great thing to keep in mind. We do not know everything about the sun, like why it is there, or how it got there, just like metaphysics.

Teachers

Teachers are a very important part for teaching and learning to take place. A Farmer would represent a teacher in my garden. This is because farmers guide plants to grow by providing the right essentials and techniques to farming. Teachers must guide students when they are teaching and help students along the way. Teachers must love all of their students just like farmers love all of their crops. Also teachers can use techniques such as scaffolding (Vygotsky's Theories of Education the process of the MKP using questions to guide students

to new learning in the ZPD), and Zone of Proximal Development (The place in teaching where students are leaning things that are not too difficult or not too simplistic).

Safe Environment

A way to represent a safe environment would be by having fertilizer in a garden. Having fertilizer in your garden helps kill the weeds so it is easier to grow. Allowing a safe environment to take place allows effective learning and teaching to take place. A teacher can do this by remembering axiology (Fundamental Truths, Ethics, Aesthetics, Know culture and how to assimilation), and epistemology ("How we know what we know". Open to change and new ideas). Having these types of things in mind will make it easier for a teacher to teach/learn and students to learn.

Teamwork

Teamwork can be characterized by having vines in the garden. Grapes and pumpkins have vines and they work to help all the grapes or pumpkins grow by working together. It carries the nutrients to all of the fruits or vegetables. This is like teamwork because students need to work in teams to bounce ideas off one another.

Mistakes

Dead Plants is a great way to represent mistakes. It is ok if some plants die in the garden. The farmer learns what they did wrong, and hopefully next time that plant will not die. It is very important for the teacher to let the students know its ok to make mistakes, because without mistakes learning does not take place.

Choice

I believe choice is a huge factor when learning takes place, which can be represented as all the different dugouts for the plants to grow. The farmer gets to decide what to plant and where to plant in each spot. Teachers must keep this in mind when teaching. Also it is important for students to feel as though they choose to learn by themselves. It is also significant for students to be involved in what they want to learn. This provides a will to learn because they decided it themselves, and they find it essential.

Time

A way to represent time is by flowers in the garden. It is good to take time and smell the flowers. Not every student is going to learn at the same time, and it is a good idea to keep this in mind when teaching.

Flexibility

A worm can be shown as flexibility in the garden. A worm is very flexible and healthy for any garden to have, just like a teacher should have when wanting to teach students.

Result

A carrot in the garden demonstrates result. The farmer cannot see the whole carrot until they pull it out. Sometimes a teacher wants to see the student learn so bad they forget the

student needs time to grow and learn. Do not pull the carrot out until it grows completely. This is like logic, which brings order to the reasoning process and helps you reach answers.

Distractions

Distractions can be represented in the garden as bugs. Sometimes bugs get into your garden and prevent the plants to grow. I believe that teachers need to remember that sometimes there will be distractions and it is important to take care of them for learning to take place.

Metacognition

Metacognition can be represented as a mirror. Some plants need more sunlight to grow, so a reflection mirror is important to have. Teachers need to provide time for students to reflect, like a mirror. Without reflection it is hard to realize what you learned.

Visual Anchor Chart:

