5E Learning Cycle Problem-based Learning (PBL) Model



5E learning cycle

- Problem-based learning embedded within a serial constructivist model, the 5E learning cycle
 - Engage
 - Explore
 - Explain
 - Elaborate
 - Evaluate

Bybee, R.W. et al. (1989). *Science and technology education for the elementary years: Frameworks for curriculum and instruction.* Washington, D.C.: The National Center for Improving Instruction.

Engage

- introduces the context
- sets the scene for the learning episode
- gives the learning relevance
- develops a curiosity about the 'Big Idea" or key concepts
- elicit students' pre ideas
- helps find out what the students already know and any misconceptions
- tells you where you need to start in building their understanding

Explore

- students start to build conceptual understanding based on first-hand experience
- starting to answer the key questions
- not saying students have to discover everything themselves, they can be
 - guided
 - given important information and techniques to facilitate learning

Explain

The teacher should involve students in devising explanations and further construction of ideas through reflection on what they discovered in the 'Explore' stage through carefully constructed questions

Explain

this stage involves teacher input, only after the students have constructed as much understanding of a concept as they can, this stage further constructs the ideas, it can involve formalization of

- Terminology
- Definitions
- Models
- Analogies

Elaborate

- Consolidates, deepens, and extends conceptual understanding through application
- students solve the problem/challenges so they can develop a deep understanding
- Takes thinking to the highest levels

Evaluate

- Students communicate their solutions to the problem or understanding of the Big Idea through active writing appropriate to the context/problem
- assessment through varying approaches and tasks
- use of assessment rubrics
- peer, self, and tutor assessment/evaluation