

# TeachME Professional Development

## Hands-On Teaching and Learning

**1. Hands-on learning leverages interactive, engaging educational actions that require the student to:**

- A. Complete textbook learning at home, on their own time
  - B. Compile a portfolio of relevant projects to demonstrate their learning
  - C. Work harder to keep up with their peers
  - D. Be an active participant in their learning journey
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**2. What is the neurological rationale for the importance of hands-on learning?**

- A. Passive instruction is actually easier for the brain to handle, making tactile learning a challenge
  - B. Tactile work and relevant, real-world problems engages brains more than passive instruction
  - C. Passive learning stimulates the amygdala to retain more information
  - D. Tactile learning does not occur in the brain at all, stimulating muscle learning more directly
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**3. Can hands-on learning be used for groups of students?**

- A. Yes, but it's more effective when attempted alone, so use this strategy in groups with care
  - B. No; hands-on learning is exclusively helpful when a child is taught alone
  - C. Yes — and it can help a student learn practical communication and SEL skills, too
  - D. No, but this makes it a great choice for remote education
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**4. How might hands-on learning help a student be more competitive for internships and (later) jobs?**

- A. Hands-on experience with specific tools or processes is very attractive to future employers
  - B. Hands-on experience teaches a child that academic work isn't real work
  - C. Hands-on learning doesn't prepare a child for the workforce at all
  - D. Hands-on learning is only useful if a future employer has specifically requested it
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**5. What are a few ways that hands-on learning can be incorporated for remote students?**

- A. Requiring remote students to come into the classroom for a few days a month
  - B. EdTech, remote activities, and strategically-planned community involvement
  - C. Hands-on learning is strictly an in-person teaching tool
  - D. Cooking, cleaning, and community events
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**6. How might teachers who wish to invest in hands-on learning decorate their classrooms?**

- A. With minimalistic spaces, with few toys, so as to provide a blank slate
  - B. With clearly-labeled toys that are accompanied with specific directions for play
  - C. With open spaces and fun, brightly-colored, tactile objects
  - D. The way that the teacher sets up the classroom does not matter
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**7. Should preschool children be told how to play or guided in open exploration?**

- A. Children should be told how to play; this helps set expectations for adult life
  - B. How to play -- this reduces chances for error and keeps children safe
  - C. Children should just be guided and left to explore for three minutes, and then directed afterwards, so as not to waste time
  - D. Guided in open exploration — this can help cement their sense of discovery and critical thinking skills
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**8. What's a simple way that teachers can provide many of the benefits of hands-on learning without needing to expend the energy or resources associated with revamping entire classrooms?**

- A. Providing funny, relatable, or dramatic context, so students can connect with the subject matter at hand
  - B. Bringing one specific prop to class
  - C. Asking children to imagine that they are completing a specific activity
  - D. Hands-on learning requires a certain investment level; there are no shortcuts
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**9. Why is it sometimes appropriate to give students problems with no clear, defined, or clean answer?**

- A. Students are better off if they learn frustration early.
  - B. There is no reason that this is helpful for students.
  - C. This is more true-to-life, and allows students a little more freedom over the problem-solving process
  - D. It is often easier for teachers to provide these types of problems.
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**10. Why is it a good idea to ask students to help you 'teach' the other students, each in turn?**

- A. This removes some of the work from a teacher's busy day.
  - B. Asking students to help teach will help students learn the subject more fully than when they take something in more passively
  - C. This will create a competition among the students that can only help foster academic growth
  - D. This is actually a bad practice, and will not help foster hands-on learning
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