

HEALTH OCCUPATIONS

Recommendations for Teaching Performance Based lessons in Medical Careers/Health Occupations

Increase:

Hands-on activities that include:

- Students identifying their own real questions about physiology and anatomy
- Observation activity, often designed by students, aimed at real discovery, employing a wide range of process skills
- Students use communication and presentation skills to explain data
- Students' apply team work skills to realize concepts and processes learned
- Applications; either to social issues or further health questions

Focus on underlying concepts about human health and diseases.

Questioning, thinking, and problem solving, especially with regards to:

Human behavior, ethical and legal issues conflict resolution infection control and safety measures

Active application of health science learning to contemporary technological issues and social issues

In-depth study of an important health related topics.

Curiosity about positive attitudes toward health sciences for all students, including females and members of minority groups

Integration of reading, writing, and math in health sciences.

Collaborative small-group work, with training to ensure it is efficient and includes learning for all group members

Teacher facilitating students' investigative steps

Evaluation that focuses on health science concepts, processes, and attitudes.

Decrease:

- Instruction based mainly on lecture and information giving
- Dependence on textbooks and lockstep patterns of instruction
- labs in which students follow steps without a purpose or question of their own
- Questions, concepts, and answers provided only by the teacher
- Students treated as if they have no prior knowledge or investigative abilities

Memorizing detailed vocabulary, definitions, and explanations without thorough connection to broader ideas.

Isolation of health science from the rest of students' lives.

Superficial coverage of many topics according to an abstract scope-and-sequence.

Activity limited to texts, lectures, and multiple-choice quizzes

Students working individually, competitively.

Teacher only as expert in subject matter

Testing focused only on memorization of detail, ignoring thinking skills, process skills, attitudes