

Motivation as the Front Door Key & Evaluation as the Back Door Key Framing the Art of Intrinsic Learning

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Planning for imaginative learning is the skill I continually use from my EAP experience. Whether planning with a team or as the individual teacher, I use the outline I learned: objectives, motivation, warm-up, activities, closure and evaluation. Sometimes I even write out what I will say (a la Charlie).

Motivation was one of the important keys to successful learning in EAP. We asked ourselves why we were teaching something. How and why would the kids be interested? Feel like they could be themselves? Feel like they could make mistakes? Relax while energized? I learned how to get kids motivated then allow them to amaze me with their own outcomes.



If motivation was a front door key, then evaluation was the back door key. One time Ann observed one of my classes at a South Dallas community center. Afterwards, I knew it had not gone so well. Ann kindly suggested a simple exercise that I have used to this day. *She asked me to write two strengths of the class and two improvements. The choice of word,*

“improvements,” forces me to stay positive, stay active and realize that I have the wisdom for solutions.

Many more attitudes and skills were ingrained in my thinking through EAP. As I've told Ann and many others, EAP changed my life in a wonderful way.