

Lorrie Heagy's Top 10 Effective Teaching Practices

1. All lessons should have these 3 ingredients: Relevance, Movement & Emotion (Head, Hands & Heart).
2. Emotion drives attention, and attention drives learning, problem-solving behavior, and just about everything else.
3. Brain's Rewards: The brain is "perfectly happy to pursue novelty, curiosity, embrace relevance and bathe in feedback from successes." (Eric Jensen)
4. Experience first, intellectualize later. We are motivated by curiosity. If we tell them, "This is the way it is without any room for flexible thinking or exploration," there's nothing more they can do with it.
5. Allow your lessons to "breathe." Before students can take in new information, they need to "breathe out" or physically manipulate previous learning so that they can make room to "breathe in" the new.
6. If possible, let your children sleep on it, to give them a chance to personalize new information.
7. Build meaningful movement into your lessons to help children remember and recall information, as well as avoid unnecessary discipline problems.
8. Just as in performance, transitions can make or break a lesson. Whenever possible, make your transitions fluid and connect them to the lesson.
9. Create episodes of learning for your students by using location, emotion, movement and relevance.
10. Remember the Power of Story!



Lorrie Heagy, JAMM Director ~ heagyl@gmail.com
Juneau Alaska Music Matters, PO Box 34205, Juneau, AK 99803
<http://juneaumusicmatters.blogspot.com>