The Autonomous Learner Model for Developing Potential

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WUHAT U DO!
KEEN VORON!
Autonomous Learners

Autonomous learners, by definition, are “students who solves problems or develop new ideas through a combination of divergent and convergent thinking and function with minimal external guidance in selected areas of endeavor.”

(Betts & Knapp, 1981)
Autonomous learners perceive living and learning as main components for continuous development of potential in the cognitive, emotional, social and physical domains. Motivation comes from within, skills are internalized, and passions are the paths of the journeys. Autonomous Learners are never satisfied, for they perceive the need for a nourishing life, and the needs of society. (Betts, Betts, Kapushion, & Carey, 2013)
Profiles of Gifted & Talented Learners

- Type I  The Successful
- Type II  The Creative
- Type III  The Underground
- Type IV  The At-Risk
- Type V  The Twice Exceptional
- Type VI  The Autonomous Learner
The Five Dimensions of the Model

- **Orientation**
  - Understanding Giftedness, Talent, Intelligence, & Creativity
  - Group Building Activities
  - Self/Personal Development
  - Program & School Opportunities & Responsibilities

- **Individual Development**
  - Inter/Intra Personal
  - Learning Skills
  - College & Career
  - Involvement
  - Organizational Skills
  - Productivity

- **In-Depth Study**
  - Individual Projects
  - Group Projects
  - Mentorships
  - Presentations
  - Assessment

- **Seminars**
  - Futuristic
  - Problematical
  - Controversial
  - General Interest
  - Advanced Knowledge

- **Enrichment**
  - Explorations
  - Investigations
  - Cultural Activities
  - Service
  - Adventure Trips
ORIENTATION

- Understanding Giftedness, Talent, Intelligence, & Creativity
- Group Building Activities
- Self/Personal Development
- Program & School Opportunities & Responsibilities

AUTONOMOUS LEARNER
INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT

AUTONOMOUS LEARNER

- Informational Skills
- Learning Skills
- College & Career Skills
- Organizational Skills
- Productivity Skills
ENRICHMENT

AUTONOMOUS LEARNER

Explorations
Investigations
Cultural Activities
Service
Adventure Trips

ENRICHMENT
SEMINARS

AUTONOMOUS LEARNER

Futuristic
Problematic
Controversial
General Interest
Advanced Knowledge

SEMINARS
IN-DEPTH STUDIES

IN-DEPTH STUDY

AUTONOMOUS LEARNER

Individual Projects
Group Projects
Mentorships
Presentations
Assessment
Levels of Learning in Learner Differentiated Curriculum

- In-Depth Studies
- Investigations
- Explorations
Explorations

- Student Based
- Diverse Possibilities
- Short Term
- Information Gathering
- Knowledge/Comprehension
- Emphasis is on Content
Investigations

- Student/Learner Based
- Diverse Possibilities
- Longer Term
- Passion Discovery
- Multiple Means of Reporting
- Emphasis on Content & Process
In-depth Studies

- Learner Based
- Diverse Possibilities within Passion
- Passion Development
- Mentorship
- Presentation & Assessment of Learning, the Learner & the Product
- Content + Process + Product
Erin’s Journey
(Universal to Intensive)

Learner Differentiated Curriculum
Explorations
Investigations
In-Depth Studies
Universal
Topic: The Moon (Exploration)

- Brainstorm & make a mind map of the different topics associated with the moon.
- Find three poets who write about the moon and share their poetry with a friend.
- Collect information about the manned flights to the moon and make a presentation to a group of interested teachers.
- Interview the personnel at the local planetarium and write an article for your school paper.
- Find three websites about the moon, compare and contrast your information, and develop a power point presentation.
Targeted Topic: The Moon (Investigation)

- Write poetry or a story about the man on the moon (Verbal Linguistic)
- Chart the phases of the moon for your location & make a moon watching calendar (Logical Mathematical)
- Demonstrate a moon dance or walk (Bodily Kinesthetic)
Targeted Topic: The Moon (Investigation)

- Journal the effects that phases of the moon have on people from your observations (Interpersonal)
- Moodle (Intrapersonal)
- Create a pattern of rhythms related to phases of the moon (Musical)
- Develop a model that portrays the myths about the moon using five different geometric shapes (Spatial)
Targeted Topic: The Moon (Investigation)

- Develop a nature walk done by the light of the moon for your locality (Naturalist)
Intensive Topic: The Moon (In-Depth Study)

- Design a collection of original poems based on myths about the moon.
- Create a photographic essay on the thirteen moons of the Native American Culture.
- Create a planetarium show about the roles & influences of moons in our solar system.
- Complete an essay on the knowledge bases concerning the moon for the past century.
The Autonomous Learner

A lifelong learner is one who loves the moment, seeks truth, friendship, knowledge and wisdom. This person accepts self and others, and realizes the chance to make this a better world. A life-long learner discovers new paths for growth, joy, knowledge and friendship.

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