Praxis Paper

Language across the curriculum has brought up many ideas, theories, and practises that can be used to try to teach students about literacy in the classroom. This varies from reading, writing, studying, and gaining a general understanding of the material. Our content area literacy textbook has offered a wide variety of theories that we have included in our multiliteracies assignment such as schema, and scaffolding.

Upon deciding what we should use for our multiliteracies project we determined that the best way to begin would be to start with the KWL strategy. This strategy would allow for us to first see where the students are at and try to get a general sense of where they want to end up. In theory when a teacher brings up topics that students are actually interested in they are more likely to be engaged and want to learn. By knowing what they already know we can rush through the information that they already know, briefly review it, or even skip it all together. This gives us more time to focus on material that they don’t yet know and primarily the stuff that they want to learn. After the class is complete we as the teachers can review what they have learned and determine what they still need to know so that we can follow up with that then at the end of class time permitting or continue with the topic in the following class. This strategy capitalizes on schema theory as we are determining what the students know and allows us to use that to help with teaching what they don’t know.

The primary theory that we were able to capitalize on with this project is instructional scaffolding. We will be providing students with the necessary supports that they need to attempt new tasks. The new task that they will be learning is how to start up a new business of their own. Scaffolding comes into play through the use of our questionnaire. Students will be able to use this 50 question sheet to help them determine if they covered every avenue, and thought of every aspect required to start up their very own business. Coming up with the ideas of what to sell is one thing but ensuring that students do everything that they should to begin their business is what this is all about so we have geared them up with this question sheet to help guide them to achieve their goals. Not only this but it might also bring about new questions about how to go about doing something which gives them additional topics to add in their KWL sheet under what they still need to learn.

We believe that using these theories and strategies we can ensure quality learning is achieved amongst the students and that they will be able to achieve a solid understanding of how to create their own business. There is no better learning in the classroom than that which can be transferred to real world situations.