

A Lesson in Differentiated Learning

Brian Ocque, Senior

Project done by Tiffany Noble, Senior

Although some students may disagree, there actually is a science to teaching. A teacher must keep track of all the attention spans in the room regardless of how big they may be. Differentiated learning is the ability to use different kinds of stimulus to teach and attract a student to the learning process.

There are eight kinds of differentiated learning: Visual-spatial, Auditory-musical, Interpersonal, Intrapersonal, Naturalistic, Bodily kinetic, Linguistic and Logical-mathematical. All of these expressions are a plethora of ways different people learn the same process. Many teachers find it difficult to incorporate these into everyday teaching, but it may be beneficial to the students. Students don't even realize when teachers are using this process on them because many don't know what it is or what type of learner they are.

Tiffany Noble, one of our very own students, learned the various styles of teaching based on the work conducted for her benchmark. For her product, she conducted a lesson to a class of 8th grade art students, where she demonstrated many of the ways that differentiated learning could be incorporated into a lesson. The lesson she taught was on optical illusions. Here the students created their own Agam. This is a piece of artwork that holds two complete images. When looked at from one side, you see one image, but the other side holds a completely different image. This is called synthetic movement.

I asked for a description of the ways she incorporated the learning styles into the lesson. *"I gave out a handout which is for the logical-mathematical type learners; I talked about it for the auditory learners, and I showed a book for the visual learners called "Visual Foolery". I then gave the students directions to create their own Agam. For the logical- mathematical learners, I gave a list of directions; for the visual learners, I showed them an Agam of my own, and the bodily-kinetic learners created their own after being given a demonstration."*

All of this means that people who are hands-on, got to practice before making an Agam on their own; those who learn visually were shown examples of how the work should be done. Logical-mathematical learners who learn by following strict instructions were content with following directions on a worksheet. The auditory learners heard the directions given to them before they started the project. Do any of these learning styles apply to you and how you learn things? Think about it for a moment. Does a lesson stick in your brain when you are told the facts, or when you write it down in your notes? Can you recall facts by remembering a teachers movements or facial expressions?



All of these are the different ways you can be affected by differentiated learning. Whether you realize it or not, teachers use this on you every day. When it comes to your performance in school, maybe you should find out just what type of learner you really are. This may help to discover what teachers actually help you learn, and what ones are just wasting your time.

NYS Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Essay and Fine Arts Display

New York State schools are invited to submit essays and artwork based on Dr. King's Six Principles of Nonviolence. The categories are writing, painting, drawing, sculpting, and photography. All entries received will be placed on display for viewing one week prior to the King Observance January 16, 2006, in Albany, New York.

King's Six Principles of Nonviolence are:

- *Kingian Nonviolence is Not for Cowards*
- *The Beloved Community is a World of Peace with Justice*
- *Attack Injustice, Not Persons Doing Unjust Deeds*
- *Accept Suffering Without Retaliation for the Sake of the Cause to Achieve a Goal*
- *Avoid Internal Violence of the Spirit as Well as External Physical Violence*
- *The Universe is on the Side of Justice*

King's Six Steps of Nonviolence are:

- *Information Gathering*
- *Education*
- *Personal Commitment*
- *Negotiation*
- *Direct Action*
- *Reconciliation*

All entries must be postmarked no later than December 9, 2005. This years theme is:

***Embrace the Dream:
It's More than Just a Day***

PLEASE SUBMIT ENTRIES TO:

Ms. Flonzina Haizlip
Executive Director, NYS Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Holiday Memorial Observance
NYS Office of General Services
Empire State Plaza-Concourse Room 130
Albany, New York 12242

For more information contact Mr. Ford.

2006 New York State Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian Awards

Nominate Somebody Special

The King Humanitarian Awards were established as one of the Empire State's highest honors of human service. There are three major categories: Youth, Adult, and Senior Citizen. These achievement awards pay tribute to special New Yorkers who have made major contributions to human and civil rights.

Nominations must be postmarked no later than November 21, 2005.

Send nomination to:

NYS Office of General Services
Martin Luther King Observance, Attn: Flonzina Haizlip
Office of Special Events
Empire State Plaza-Concourse Room 130
Albany, New York 12242

For more information contact Mr. Ford.

Deer Population on the Rise

Travis Williamson, Senior

It is estimated that the deer population has risen fifty-five percent in the last five years; therefore, year round hunting should be allowed, like it is in Wisconsin. Even with year round hunting, it would take three years to kill of all the deer in the U.S. Over-



population of deer has affected farmers because the deer are eating their crops, costing the farmers of New York over one billion dollars.

Because hunters are not allowed to shoot deer out of season, the deer population has increased to the tune of fifty-five percent in the last two years. Besides extending the hunting season, New York State should allow hunters to hunt with rifles, which are more accurate; sterilization programs should be instituted; and during deer season more deer should be allowed per hunting license.



Some people believe that more deer are killed by cars than by hunters in deer season. The hunting season must be extended to control the deer population.



HAPPY HUNTING!