



FROM THE GROWING KIDS' PARENTING RESOURCE LIBRARY

Differentiated Learning

There is much talk in some education circles about differentiated learning. It means teaching to all the learning styles and multiple intelligences of the student. How many times have you heard a song that brought you back to high school memories or a smell that reminded you of days in your mom's kitchen? Learning is about remembering and experiencing. It is not accomplished through memorizing, listening or seeing by themselves. Learning and remembering is best accomplished when learners are able to associate the material with various senses. Each sense and ability, like speech, operates from different areas of the brain. Using multiple areas, at the same time, creates connections from one area of the brain, to another. That is how intellectual potential is increased and people get smarter. If all of your brain isn't wired it's like having your stereo hooked up without speakers. It works. Just not as good. The fact is that most people are visual kinesthetic learners not auditory. That is why you may never have liked listening to a lecture. Maybe if there was some music playing you would have enjoyed it more. Music by itself activates every area of the brain. It is interesting that Chinese is the only language that activates every part of the brain. The different words are made depending on the tone given to it. Chinese is a musical language. Mind Map planning effectively teaches differentiated instruction. It is a valuable tool to create auditory, visual, and kinesthetic environments.