Strategies for Teaching Non‑Fiction: Grades 3‑8

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Introduction:

Welcome to *Strategies for Teaching Non-Fiction: Grades 3*-8, an online professional development course geared primarily for educators serving students in grades 3-8. This course focuses on strategies that expose students to a variety of motivating, challenging non-fiction texts. There should be a plethora of oral and reading activities to help close some of the reading gaps. Educators should utilize reading resources other than textbooks to encourage students to read. This course will require educators to implement new or improve current strategies in their education setting.

This course will focus on the following areas:
- **Purpose of text**
- **Posing Questions**
- **Skimming a Text**
- **Connect & Apply**

Academic Integrity Statement

The structure and format of most online courses presume a high level of personal and academic integrity in completion and submission of coursework. Individuals enrolled in an online professional development course are expected to adhere to the following standards of academic conduct.

Academic Work

Coursework submitted by the individual shall be the educator's own work or appropriately attributed, in part or in whole, to its correct source. Submission of commercially prepared (or group prepared) materials as if they are one's own work is unacceptable.

Aiding Honesty in Others
The individual will encourage honesty in others by refraining from providing materials or information to another person with knowledge that these materials or information will be used improperly.

Violations of these academic standards may result in loss of credit for the course.

Level of Application
This course is designed to be an informational course with application to educational settings. The strategies are appropriate for the remediation of challenging behavior in students.

Course Expecations:

Upon completion of the units in this online professional development course, educators should:
- ✓ Know the terminology to use when discussing purpose of text
- ✓ Utilize all resources relevant to teaching non-fictions
- ✓ Apply the strategies covered in the course
- ✓ Increase the probability of students performing better academically

Course Description
The *Strategies for Teaching Non-Fiction: Grades 3-8* was developed to provide educators with various approaches to teaching non-fiction. The course discusses and supports several classroom techniques. These techniques allow educators to gain a knowledge and understanding of how to assist students in understanding non-fiction reading material.

Essentially this course teaches educators how to recognize student interests and utilize those interests to encourage reading. When students develop an interest, it is very probable that they will retain the information. Retaining the learned information will cause better grades on assessments. When this process is taught and used correctly, it will significantly impact student academic achievement.

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Course Modules

Unit 1: Purpose of text

Upon completion of this unit, the educators are expected to:

- Provide understanding feedback through discussion forums on **Purpose of Text**.
- Score 90 to 100% on **Purpose of Text** quiz.
- Share their ideas with other educators (workshop and school).

Reading Assignments	Graded Activities and Deliverables		
	Grading Category	**Activities/Deliverables**	**Grade Allocation (% of all graded work)**
Various reading assignments are located in unit-week 1	Assignment	Complete the reading assignments	5%
	Discussion	Purpose of text	5%
	Assessment	Quiz from reading assignments	5%
	Assignments	Lesson Plan Snippet	5%
	Assignment	Peer Observation	5%

Unit 2: Posing Questions

Upon completion of this unit, the educators are expected to:

- Provide understanding feedback through discussion forums on **Posing Questions**.
- Score 90 to 100% on **Posing Questions** quiz.
- Share their ideas with other educators (workshop and school).

Reading Assignments	Graded Activities and Deliverables		
	Grading Category	Activities/Deliverables	Grade Allocation (% of all graded work)
Various reading assignments are located in unit-week 2	Assignment	Complete the reading assignments	5%
	Discussion	Posing questions	5%
	Assessment	Quiz from reading assignments	5%
	Assignments	Lesson Plan Snippet	5%
	Assignment	Peer Observation	5%

Unit 3: Skimming a Text

Upon completion of this unit, the educators are expected to:

- Provide understanding feedback through discussion forums on **Skimming a Text**.
- Score 90 to 100% on **Skimming a Text** quiz.
- Share their ideas with other educators (workshop and school).

Reading Assignments	Graded Activities and Deliverables		
	Grading Category	Activities/Deliverables	Grade Allocation (% of all graded work)
Various reading assignments are located in unit-week 3	Assignment	Complete the reading assignments	5%
	Discussion	Skimming a text	5%
	Assessment	Quiz from reading assignments	5%
	Assignment	Lesson Plan Snippet	5%
	Assignment	Peer Observation	5%

Unit 4: Connect & Apply

Upon completion of this unit, the educators are expected to:

- Provide understanding feedback through discussion forums on **Connect & Apply**.
- Score 90 to 100% on Connect & Apply quiz.
- Share their ideas with other educators (workshop and school).

Reading Assignments	Graded Activities and Deliverables		
	Grading Category	Activities/Deliverables	Grade Allocation (% of all graded work)
Various reading assignments are located in unit-week 4	Assignment	Complete the reading assignments	5%
	Discussion	How do you connect & apply?	5%
	Assessment	Quiz from reading assignments	5%
	Assignment	Lesson Plan Snippet	5%
	Assignment	Peer Observation	5%

Earn It – Final Wrap-up

Upon completion, the educators are expected to have more depths of knowledge on the course objectives.

Assessment	Graded Activities and Deliverables		
	Grading Category	Activities/Deliverables	Grade Allocation (% of all graded work)
Writing guidelines for reflection is located within course	Assessment	Complete the Reflection Assessment	Required to Pass

References:

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