Creating Curriculum: The Key to Integrating Faith, Culture and Life throughout the Catholic School Experience

Dr. Shauna Adams
University of Dayton
sadams1@udayton.edu
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Who is here?

Teachers:
- Preschool
- Primary Grades
- Middle School
- High School

Administrators

Catechists

Other?
Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum

🌟 Builds upon what students already know and are able to do
🌟 Plans integrate across traditional subject-matter and developmental domains
🌟 Makes meaningful connection
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INTENTIONAL TEACHING
Creating Curriculum versus Following a Curriculum
Intentional Environments
Provide Authentic Experiences

Do This

Not This
Use Authentic Materials

Continuum of Authenticity

- **2 Dimensional**
  - Adequate
  - Photographs
  - Realistic drawings
  - Line drawings or cartoon like figures

- **3 Dimensional**
  - Best
  - Real natural materials, tools or devices
  - Pretend but realistic objects
  - Better
  - Pretend but unrealistic

LESS

MORE
Engage in Authentic Assessment

❤ Before the Body Works Investigation

❤ After the Body Works Investigation
Important Topics of Study

• The Apple Experiment
• See what happens when there is no unifying topic of investigation.
• Standards are covered and development is addressed through a series of unrelated and disconnected experiences.
Science Concept Planner

Science Topic to be Investigated

Content resources related to science topics
Science Concept Planner

Science Topic to be Investigated

Content resources related to science topics

Science Concept 1
Science Concept 2
Science Concept 3
Science Concept 4

Experience
Math
LA
Sci
Art
Rel
Dev Skill
Soc. St.
Science Concept Planner

Scientific topics and their related concepts are interconnected, showing how they can be integrated across different subjects. Each topic has associated experiences, skills, and resources that can be used for teaching and learning.

- **Science Concept 1**
- **Science Concept 2**
- **Science Concept 3**
- **Science Concept 4**

These concepts are linked to other subjects:
- **Math**
- **Art**
- **LA (Literacy and Academic Skills)**
- **Rel (Related Skills)**

Experience in science topics is crucial for developing deeper understanding and practical skills. The flowchart illustrates how content resources related to each topic can be accessed and utilized in different learning environments.
A Study of Fabric

- Does it follow the children’s interest?
- Can children engage in inquiry?
- Is it novel?
- Are there hands on authentic materials?
- Can it support all content areas and developmental domains?
A Study of Fabric

Standards Addressed

**Science:** Explores objects and materials; Describes, compares, sorts, and orders, Records observations; Recognize properties of materials.

**Motor:** Coordinates use of hands/fingers to perform tasks.

**LA:** Uses language to express observations; Uses drawing to support language; Uses nouns to describe; Prints letters in own name.

**REL:** God created our world and provides for us.
A Study of Fabric
A Study of Fabric
A Study of Fabric
Look what we made...
A Study of Light: Reflection

- Will it reflect light?
  - Yes
- Spoon
- Tube
- Mirror
- Cup
- Sun
- Moon
- Book
A Study of Light: Refraction
A Study of Light: Transparency
A Study of Rocks
A Study of Rocks
A Study of Rocks
A Study of Rocks
A Study of Rocks
A Study of Magnets
A Study of Magnets
A Study of Magnets

