



Peer teaching or tutoring

What is it?

In a multigrade classroom the students are grouped according to their grade level and sometimes separated by spaces, and there is only one teacher who is responsible to teach all the students. With the purpose of being able to take care of everything and everyone, peer teaching or tutoring is proposed.

How does it work?

Recent studies propose changing the teaching methodology to group work and cooperative learning strategies. They consider learner-centered strategies to be more effective in blended classes. This, on the one hand, makes them efficient and on the other hand flexible with regards to the use of time. In addition, teachers appoint "little teachers" in charge of the group, usually the advanced learners. They serve as tutors to students who need help within the group. Thus, students are encouraged to help each other and work together.

Materials and resources

No extra materials are needed.

Evidences and results

Several studies reveal that peer teaching or tutoring is an effective and reliable strategy be it in MG (Moliner & Alegre, 2020a,b; Muthambi, 2015). For MG, peer tutoring fits well because it saves time, and it is easier to organize and assign tutoring pairs in cross-age groups (Ballesteros & Ocampo, 2016).

Suggestions: the teachers interviewed recommended not mixing students at another grade level within the class. They fear that the upper grades will do all the work, making the lower grades passive.



References

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