

Whitney Verbeck

My Curriculum Plan

The Human Body- How Does It Work?

Rationale

In this unit of study, students will analyze the internal structures and functions of the human body, starting from the top down. The students will first learn how the brain controls the body's functions, how the different parts of the eye work cohesively to help you see, how light interacts with the internal structures of the eye, and how our muscles and bones function.

Learning Outcomes

- Students will recognize how the brain processes information using nerves and senses.
- Students will identify the structures and functions of the inner parts of the eye.
- Students will recognize the system of bones, muscles, and tendons that allow our body to move.

Ideas

Each lesson's learning outcome makes up the giant purpose of the unit, for students to recognize that the body is constructed of different, unique structures that each play a role in keeping our body active and alive.

The Brain- The Controller of the Body

The learning outcome of this lesson is for students to recognize how the brain processes information, gives out information through the nerves, and receives information through our body's five senses.

The Eye- There's So Much More To It!

The learning outcome of this lesson is for students identify and explain the inner parts of the eye. Once they are able to recall and recognize where the structures are in the eye, students will then learn how each parts function.

Move Your Body- Thanks to Muscles and Bones!

The students will take a deeper dive look into the system of bones, muscles, and tendons that allow our body to move. The brain is the controller of this movement.

My Anecdote

It is a state science standard in fourth grade to teach about the different parts of the body and how it works. I've taught this unit before, and loved it. But, looking back there were some things I would have tweaked. I taught this unit using Mystery Science, and I thought they did a nice job of explaining the body's functions. I don't think the information stuck long term in my students. I think a main reason why this occurred is because it didn't have the students really looking into and researching on their own how each part of their body works. I also didn't like the order of which things were taught. For example, it taught about the muscles, then the brain, then the eyes. This kind of confused my students because in order for you to really understand how your muscles and bones work, you need to recognize that the brain is controlling them. I would like to create my own human body unit from scratch, based on past things I've observed that worked/didn't work when teaching this unit.