

Learning for Life During Class Meetings

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Abstract

Class meetings are usually regarded as extra lessons dedicated mostly to teachers' administrative work and, consequently, most teachers and students find the class meetings boring and uncreative. Many teachers and students usually do not take enough time and energy to try to create class meetings which would be interesting and would provide the best possible circumstances for students to learn cooperation, mutual respect, responsibility, social skills and to develop active citizenship and awareness about the importance of their cultural and social environment.

This paper presents some ideas that have been used in class meetings at Škofijska gimnazija Vipava with the third class students and have resulted in very positive responses from the students. We participated in the Feedback project and consequently two of the digital toolkit activities were tested during our class meetings. The Feedback Time Capsule and Greatness are based activities designed to facilitate feedback in learning, and to promote respect, cooperation, responsibility and positive communication among students. Coffee with the major was an activity designed to create cooperation between our school and the municipality of Vipava, but also to advance the active citizenship among students. The activity of potential conservation and restoration of historic and cultural monuments and sites in and near Vipava was performed in order to make students think about possible ways in which the architectural heritage could be restored and later marketed.

Cooperation and creativity of the students have worked and proved a good example of how the class meetings can engage students to active participation.

Keywords: Class meeting, cooperation, creativity, active participation of students