

Teaching ‘Philosophy for Children’

A professional development program for teachers

Would you like to: -

- ◆ Develop students’ thinking and reasoning skills?
- ◆ Encourage concentration and participation?
- ◆ Improve classroom culture and morale?

Children can do Philosophy

Keeping students interested in their school subjects isn’t always easy. Getting them to think reflectively and understand why learning is important can be difficult. Teaching students *Philosophy* is one way to improve interest, engagement and learning.

Improve Children’s Learning

Teaching ‘Philosophy for Children’ is a training course that teaches you how to run Philosophy sessions with your students. You learn about *Philosophy* and the *Community of Inquiry* – the ideal way to explore philosophy. Philosophy can be taught as a stand-alone subject or integrated into the curriculum with other subjects. It makes them more interesting and improves classroom morale.

The aims of the course are:

To teach educators how to run Philosophy sessions with their students, using the Community of Inquiry methodology, making learning more interesting, fun and relevant, and improving students’ thinking, reasoning, discussion and social skills, and also the culture of classrooms and schools, including moral and academic standards.

Learning Objectives

Participants will take part in several Communities of Inquiry. You will learn about Philosophy and will practice philosophical discussion techniques. You will learn how to:

- ◆ Facilitate Philosophy sessions with your students in a Community of Inquiry.
- ◆ Develop discussion plans for your sessions.
- ◆ Deliver advanced formats, such as small groups, concept games and visits to places of interest.
- ◆ Integrate Philosophy techniques with the teaching of other subjects across the curriculum.
- ◆ Improve your classroom culture, standards and morale by encouraging wonder and excitement about topics at school and the world at large.

Format

The course follows FAPSA (Federation of Australasia in Schools Association) guidelines. The course is conveniently structured into 4 x 4-hour workshops and a 2-hour feedback session, making a total of 18-hours. You receive workbooks and other resources at each workshop. You will need opportunities to work with a class so that you can practice between workshops.

Participants

While the training was initially designed for primary school teachers, the methods are suitable for all grades (I have used the methods successfully with Grades K-12). 12 participants is an ideal number for training, but more or less can be negotiated. Contact us now to arrange a training for your teachers.

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