

Six lecture

Constructivism theory

Jean Piaget (1896-1980) is considered the father of the constructivist view of learning.

Constructivist learning has emerged as a prominent approach to learning and teaching on the basis of the work by John Dewey (1858–1952), Jean Piaget (1896–1980), Lev Vygotsky (1896–1934), Jerome Bruner (1915–), Maria Montessori (1870–1952), and Ernst von Glasersfeld (1917–), who, among others provide historical ..

As the name implies, from a constructivist viewpoint, learning is conceptualised as an active process in which learners construct new ideas or concepts based upon their own knowledge, both old (from the past)

Constructivism is based on the idea that people actively construct or make their own knowledge, and that reality is determined by your experiences as a learner.

What is the difference between constructivist and cognitive theories?

The constructivist approach affirm the importance of student-centered learning and the role of the student in constructing their own understanding of the world

The cognitive science approach, on the other hand, focuses on the study of the mental processes and mechanisms that underlie human cognition, such as memory, attention, problem-solving, and decision-making. This approach emphasises the importance of understanding the cognitive processes that are involved in learning, such as memory storage, retrieval, and transfer, in order to design effective instructional strategies. Cognitive science theorists argue that to understand learning, one must understand the cognitive processes that underlie it, and that by understanding these processes, one can design instruction that is more effective at promoting learning.

Constructivism in education asserts that each student interacts with material – and knowledge – differently, based on personal experiences and feelings. Each student may bring a different perspective to the same lesson.

Constructivism is the theory that says learners construct knowledge rather than just passively take in information. As people experience the world and reflect upon those experiences, they build their own representations and incorporate new information into their pre-existing knowledge (schemas).

What is constructivist learning in a classroom?

In a constructivist classroom, learning is an active process. Students are actively engaged, and are responsible for their learning. According to Grennon Brooks and Brooks, the learner controls their own learning, not the teacher. In addition, the learner should give their opinions and viewpoints.

Applying Constructivism in the classroom

Engage- Help in identifying the necessity for learning new concepts. .1

Explore- Learn more about the subject. .2

Explain- Build explanations and definitions. .3

Elaborate- Utilize prior knowledge and practice skills .4

Evaluate- Evaluate how learning relates to the objectives .5

-criticism

The biggest criticism of constructivist learning is its lack of structure. Some students need highly structured and organized learning environments to thrive, and constructivist learning focuses on a more laid-back method to help students engage in their own learning.

Some psychologists criticize constructivism because dominant students control interactions in the classroom while average students might be ignored (Gupta, 2011). These critics contend that the dominant group drives the whole class towards their thinking while leaving other students behind.

Rather than memorizing facts from a teacher or external source, learners actively construct meaning for themselves. At the core of constructivism is discovery—a crucial aspect of the learning process. Learners take new information and internalize it, integrating it with their prior knowledge and experiences.