

Adult Learners

Objectives

At the completion of this session participants will be able to:

- Name 6 distinctive characteristics of adult learners.
 - Explain 4 primary teaching strategies for adult learners.
 - Apply the 4 teaching strategies.
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Learning preferences of adult vs. young learners

1. Adults are *autonomous* and *self-directed*.
 2. Adults prefer to build on previous *life experience*.
 3. Adults are *goal-oriented*.
 4. Adults are *relevancy-oriented*.
 5. Adults are *practical*.
 6. Adults expect to be shown *respect*
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Learning Tips for Teaching Adult Learners

1. Motivation – must recognize need for the information
 2. Practice – amount of retention directly affected by amount of practice while learning
 3. Feedback – positive and negative
 4. Transference – make direct application of information in real setting
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Practice Exercise

- Work in groups to come up with short (60 seconds or less) good and bad example from one of the teaching tips. May use real examples from your past or invent your own. (3-5 minutes)
 - Share your good and bad examples with the other groups (1-2 minutes per group)
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Reference Material

<http://honolulu.hawaii.edu/intranet/committees/FacDevCom/guidebk/teachtip/adults-2.htm>
