

Constructivist Learning Theory

Learning, reflected in constructivist learning theory, is what we learn by constructing new understandings of relationships and phenomena in our world.

The constructivist model has four basic parts:

- 1) Knowledge is created by the learner.
- 2) Knowledge is “constructed” or made meaningful when the learner relates new information to prior knowledge or existing knowledge.
- 3) Knowledge, as it is constructed, is shaped by experiences and social interactions.
- 4) Knowledge is established cooperatively by the members of a culture.

With emphasis on interaction between the teacher as facilitator and the student as learners, and based on the principles of cooperation, inquiry, discussion, the exchange of ideas, the spirit of inquiry, as well as collaboration, students and teacher will grow when discoveries are the result of their interactions.

Lessons are structured around primary concepts and BIG Ideas. Students’ points of view are sought and valued.

Class Focus: Social Studies and United States History

