

Propositions accompanying the dissertation:

Scaffolds in Problem-based Learning

- I. Scaffolds for learning may be classified as hard, soft or semi-soft scaffolds, according to the mode in which they are administered within the lesson curriculum. (this thesis)

- II. Facilitator and small-group collaborative learning are important scaffolds to encourage student learning in problem-based learning.

- III. In general, learning tools that belong to the hard scaffold category are perceived by students to have a lower impact in their learning within a PBL environment. (this thesis)

- IV. Hard scaffolds are useful learning tools for students who lack prior knowledge or understanding of the subject matter.

- V. Students of a higher academic ability and who have more prior knowledge compared to their fellow peers require less support provided by hard scaffolds. (this thesis)

- VI. As students progress from novice to advanced learners, scaffolds of the 'semi-soft' or 'soft' nature are of greater importance in prompting and guiding them in their learning process.

Scaffolds in Problem-based learning (Serene Choo Siang Yan)

VII. Compared to students with high academic achievement, students of weaker academic achievements may have lower level of motivation which could affect their choice or decisions in utilising scaffolds. (this thesis)

VIII. By providing the required support to the learner on a timely basis (i.e. just-in-time scaffolding), the level or impact of understanding may be more effective than providing the learner with the resources at the start of the task. (this thesis)

IX. The students' reliance on different types of scaffolds varies as they progress from novice to advanced stages within their course of study.

X. An individual who suffers from an immunodeficiency disease may suffer from recurrent infections due to the lack of immune components to fight against foreign pathogens.

XI. An education isn't how much you have committed to memory, or even how much you know. It's being able to differentiate between what you know and what you don't. ~ quote by Anatole France

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