

Teaching Tools for the 21st Century

By Carolyn Coil

This book, very aptly titled, serves as a great resource for today's teachers. It contains current educational information, theories and ideas for the classroom at a teacher's fingertips. The information contained begins with topics covered in a teacher training course and probably in need of review by all teachers. Topics such as Learning styles, Learning modalities, Bloom's Taxonomy need revisiting at times. This information is presented in a clear, direct format that is easily read. Theories like Multiple Intelligences are revisited to allow today's teacher to reflect on its importance in today's teaching environment.

Many other current topics of interest are also presented. Cultural Diversity, Inclusion of Student with Disabilities, and Educating Gifted students are some of these. Usually they are presented in isolation. From a teacher's perspective it is very handy to have this information in one book.

While this book is used as a text for a course in educating gifted students, the information contained is relevant to all students. The book provides many points for consideration and reflection for teachers. The chapter on "The Heart of Teaching" certainly asks for self reflection.

The final chapter, Technology as a 21st Century teaching Tool is very relevant, especially for those of us who are somewhat intimidated by using it in the classroom. To nudge us into using technology, the author and publisher have provided a CD ROM loaded with forms that can be used to manage information by teacher and students.

I recommend this book highly for all my teaching colleagues. It is a great, up to date reference source, with all today's relevant topics included. Read it again before the next school year begins!

Sonia Johnson