Engaging Students in the Research Process: Strategies for Success

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Engaging Students in the Research Process: Strategies for Success

Tammy Sugarman
9 May 2005
## The Analogy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Achieving and Maintaining a Healthy Lifestyle</th>
<th>Players</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Learning and Using an Appropriate Research Strategy</td>
<td>Conflict</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Strategies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Healthy Lifestyle: Players

- You (anyone) who desires a healthy lifestyle for intrinsic reasons
- You (anyone) who desires a healthy lifestyle for extrinsic reasons
- Dietitians – professionals who believe in it, want to promote it, want to help people achieve it
- Other health professionals, fitness trainers, etc.
Research Process: Players

- Students who want to learn how to do research for intrinsic reasons
- Students who want to learn how to do research for extrinsic reasons
- Librarians – professionals who believe in it, want to promote it, want to help people achieve it
- Teaching Faculty – professionals who want students to learn it in order to produce quality research papers, etc.
Healthy Lifestyle: Ideal

http://www.mypyramid.gov/
Research Process: Ideal

- Library Resources
- Librarians
- Faculty
- WWW
- Writing Center, other support
- Google
| Healthy Lifestyle: Conflict |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dietitians / Health Prof.</th>
<th>The Public</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Well balanced meal</td>
<td>Ready to prepare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low fat foods</td>
<td>Fast food</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High nutritional value</td>
<td>Tastes good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exercise daily</td>
<td>Exercise when convenient, easy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Research Process: Conflict

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Librarians</th>
<th>Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fill the information need</td>
<td>Just some articles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A book or two</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical evaluation</td>
<td>First few results are fine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Takes Effort</td>
<td>Find it and get it fast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Takes Thought</td>
<td>Multitasking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Takes Time</td>
<td>Convenient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ask for help</td>
<td>Self sufficiency; control</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Healthy Lifestyle: Strategies

- Media exposure
- Partnerships
- Education
- Choices
- Convenience
- One size does not fit all
- It’s not all or nothing
- Help available
Research Process: Strategies

- Marketing
- Partnerships
- Education
- Choices
- Convenience
- One size does not fit all
- It’s not all or nothing
- Help available
Conclusion

- Ongoing process
- Flexible
- Encouragement
- New approaches
- Assessment and Revision
- Incremental learning
- Make it part of the culture
## Conclusion

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Smart Choices</th>
<th>Smart Resource Choices</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Make smart choices from every food group</td>
<td>Make smart resource choices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Find your balance between food and physical activity</td>
<td>Find the balance between quality and convenience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Get the most nutrition out of your calories</td>
<td>Get the most out of your research experience</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>