

GED 2002 Teachers' Handbook of Lesson Plans

Area/Skill - Science	Cognitive Skill Level - Evaluation	Correlation to Science Framework - 03.03/03.06	Lesson Number - 10
<p>Activity Title - Who Ever Heard of the Big Bang?</p> <p>Goal/Objective</p> <p>To evaluate theories and make judgments based on facts and beliefs.</p> <p>Lesson Outline</p> <p>Introduction</p> <p>In the world today, there are many theories about how the earth system originated. Some theories are based on scientific facts, others are based on religion and still others are based on folklore. Most of the time, it is only when our beliefs are being challenged that we pay any attention to other beliefs or theories.</p> <p>Activity</p> <p>Using the handout as a beginning, discuss with students the many beliefs of the origin of the earth system. Have students identify the known facts and the unknown facts about the origin of the earth. When students express their opinions about the origin of the earth system, have them back up their opinions with known facts. Draw a line down the middle of a piece of chart paper. Place the heading “facts” on the left and “opinions” on the right. As students discuss the origins of the earth, have them categorize what they are expressing as either fact or opinion.</p> <p>Debriefing/Evaluation Activity</p> <p>Have the students discuss different theories of the earth system’s origin and how each theory has affected their own way of life. Discuss the fact that people everywhere have a belief about the origin and how their beliefs may affect the way they react in many situations.</p>		<p>Materials/Texts/Realia/Handouts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Handout – The Big Bang • Chart paper, markers, highlighters • Newspapers, news magazines 	
		<p>Extension Activity</p> <p>Have students research the Big Bang Theory by using search engines such as, askjeeves.com, AOL, Yahoo, and Excite. Students should use the information that they have located to create a graphic to present to the class. The graphic may be in the form of a picture, chart, diagram, drawing, etc.</p>	
<p>Real-Life Connection</p> <p>Have students look in newspapers and news magazines for any articles relating to the Big Bang Theory.</p>		<p>ESE/ESOL Accommodations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use cooperative learning strategies. • Highlight main concepts and ideas in the informational reading. • Summarize information on the Big Bang Theory. 	

GED 2002 Teachers' Handbook of Lesson Plans - Script

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Activity Title - Who Ever Heard of the Big Bang?

Introduction

Ask: Has anyone ever thought about how the earth system got here in the first place? The students' discussions may include that many people believe a divine individual created the earth whereas others believe one of the scientific theories about the origins of the earth.

Main Activity

Ask: How do you think the earth got here? Discussion should center on the idea that there are many theories about how the earth originated. Answers may include different ideas that the students have but two of the most popular are the Big Bang theory and creation. *Ask:* What do you know about these theories? List known facts on the chalkboard or chart paper. Have the students break up into two groups. These two groups will debate the merits of each the two theories base what each group knows about them. Have the students identify facts and opinions about each of the statements made. Debrief the activity by charting the groups' facts and opinions about each theory.

Closure/Conclusion

Ask: Is everything in science based on fact? Is everything we believe to be true based on fact? Do our opinions sometimes change how we view things? When we read articles in the newspaper, news magazines or even professional publications, there are often both facts and opinions stated. When information is presented, remember to always distinguish between the facts that are stated and the opinions of the writer or speaker. This is an important skill for the GED Tests as you analyze what information has been provided and what questions are being asked.

Follow-Up Lessons/Activities

Many theories that we now accept as fact began as an idea! Have students write their own interpretation of how the Big Bang Theory has influenced our desire to explore outer space for more answers.