

Reviews

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The Spectrum of Teaching Styles

Muska Mosston and Sara Ashworth
White Plains, New York:
Longman, Inc., 1990

—Reviewed by Dolores Varnon, Clifton,
Virginia.

With the proliferation of material on teaching styles in the education literature, it is nice to find a publication that provides a comprehensive description of the different teaching styles and their impact on the teaching-learning process.

The book focuses on the teacher as decision maker and facilitator of learning. The teacher-learner relationship is addressed and defined within the context of each teaching style. Teaching styles are organized into 12 identifiable categories that progress from the purely teacher-directed (The Command Style) to the learner-initiated (The Learner-Initiated Style).

Each teaching style is presented in terms of its contributions to the physical, social, emotional, cognitive, and moral development of the learner. Mosston and Ashworth discuss the many ways teachers can promote the development of higher-order thinking skills, individual and group interactive problem-solving strategies, and learning situations and meaningfully involve the learner in the process of education.

The Spectrum of Teaching Styles is an excellent resource for teachers. It provides definitive guidelines for making decisions about which methodology can move learners along a rich and wide continuum of learning experiences in each content area. Principals may wish to refer teachers to this book to extend their repertoires of teaching strategies and to improve their instructional programs. Teacher-preparatory programs can also use *The Spectrum of Teaching Styles* as a source of information about appropriate teaching strategies and their effects upon learners.

Available from Longman, Inc., 95
Church St., White Plains, NY 10601.