EMPOWERED OER

Meaning Construction

Dimension 1: Learner-Centred

Learners are at the centre of OER design and their prior knowledge and experience are respected as valuable additions to the learning environment.

Evaluating OER against the Meaning Construction criterion

The Equity Rubric for OER Evaluation gives a resource a high rating for Meaning Construction if it "facilitates and promotes learners' ability to create meaning from content (constructivism theory)."

The Rubric suggests looking for resources "allowing students to reflect and construct their own methods to problem-solving; inviting learners' personal interpretations."

Key Examples and Suggestions

Resource	Description	Link
Glossary task	Students co-create a glossary of key terms for the course. Invite multiple entries for single glossary items to encourage multiple meanings/interpretations and to build nuance. Invite multiple means of representing a concept beyond text. E.g. Images, video, infographics, etc. Invite personal anecdotes that relate the idea to students' own lives to find analogies that have meaning for them.	H5P Flashcards

Resource	Description	Link
Cree Dictionary of Mathematical Terms with Visual Examples by Sardarli & Swan	This reference text uses Indigenous imagery and Cree equivalents for mathematical terms to aid learners in meaning construction by relating the terms to familiar images and language.	Cree Dictionary of Mathematical Terms with Visual Examples

Table of key examples and suggestions demonstrating the Meaning Construction criterion of the Learner–Centred dimension.

Suggest an Example