



# Activity-Based Teaching and Learning: Fostering 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills and Student Engagement in a Changing Global Education Landscape

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## Abstract:

*This paper presents an in-depth exploration of activity-based teaching and learning, emphasizing its significance as an innovative educational approach that promotes student engagement and active participation. It addresses the changing global learning system and the increasing demand for educational methods that foster critical 21<sup>st</sup>-century skills. Various effective strategies, including project-based learning, flipped classrooms, and experiential learning, are discussed to illustrate how activity-based teaching enhances student competencies. The role of teachers is examined, highlighting their transformation from traditional instructors to facilitators and guides in the activity-based learning environment. The paper emphasizes the crucial importance of teacher preparation and ongoing professional development in successfully implementing activity-based learning. Additionally, it addresses common challenges faced by teachers and provides potential solutions to overcome these obstacles. Finally, the paper explores potential future trends in activity-based teaching and learning, such as personalized learning, gamification, interdisciplinary approaches, and virtual collaboration, along with recommendations for policymakers and educators to promote the integration and effectiveness of activity-based learning in both Indian and international education systems. Overall, activity-based teaching and learning offer a promising framework to equip students with the essential skills and competencies needed to thrive in an ever-evolving global landscape.*

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**Keywords:** Activity-Based Teaching, 21st-Century Skills, Student Engagement, Global Education Landscape, Project-Based Learning

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## 1. Introduction

Activity-based teaching and learning is an educational approach that centers on engaging students through active participation in various learning activities. In this method, students are encouraged to be active learners rather than passive recipients of information. The core idea is to shift the focus from traditional teacher-centered instruction to student-centered learning experiences. In activity-based teaching and learning, students are involved in hands-on activities, problem-solving tasks, group discussions, role-plays, projects, experiments, and other interactive exercises. These activities are designed to stimulate critical thinking, creativity, and problem-solving skills, promoting a deeper understanding of the subject matter.

Teachers play the role of facilitators, guiding and supporting students as they explore concepts and apply their knowledge in practical situations. This approach fosters a positive learning environment where students actively participate, collaborate, and learn from each other's experiences. The benefits of activity-based teaching and learning include increased student engagement, improved retention of information, enhanced communication and interpersonal skills, and the development of a lifelong love for learning. By promoting active learning experiences, activity-based teaching helps students become independent and self-directed learners, better equipped to tackle real-world challenges.

## 2. Significance of the study

The significance of teachers in implementing activity-based teaching and learning effectively is underscored by numerous research studies and educational experts. According to Hmelo-Silver (2004), teachers play a central role as facilitators in activity-based learning environments, guiding students through various tasks and promoting deeper understanding. Kirschner et al. (2006) emphasize that effective teachers tailor activities to address individual student needs, fostering inclusivity and enhancing learning outcomes. Harlen (2006) highlights the importance of teachers in creating a safe and supportive learning environment, encouraging student participation, and providing constructive feedback. McDevitt and Ormrod (2013) further argue that teachers' continuous professional development is essential for implementing activity-based learning successfully, as it requires specialized skills and knowledge. Ultimately, by serving as role models and inspiring students to be active learners, teachers have a profound impact on the transformative potential of activity-based teaching and learning in the global education landscape.

## 3. The Changing Global Learning System

The educational landscape worldwide has been undergoing rapid and transformative changes in response to the demands of the 21st century. Globalization, advancements in technology and shifting socio-economic dynamics have shaped the way education is perceived and delivered. The traditional model of education, with its emphasis on standardized testing and rote memorization, is increasingly being challenged. There is a growing recognition that the skills and competencies needed in today's world extend beyond academic knowledge to include critical thinking, problem-solving, creativity, digital literacy, and effective communication (World Economic Forum, 2020). As the job market evolves, employers seek individuals who can adapt to dynamic work environments, collaborate across diverse teams, and demonstrate innovative thinking. Therefore, the need for innovative teaching methods has become paramount to ensure students are adequately prepared for the challenges and opportunities of the future.

Innovative teaching methods, such as activity-based learning, project-based learning, flipped classrooms, and experiential learning, have emerged as effective strategies to foster the desired skills and competencies (Hmelo-Silver, 2004; UNESCO, 2017). Activity-based learning, for instance, encourages active student engagement through hands-on activities and practical experiences, enabling deeper understanding and better retention of knowledge (Kirschner et al., 2006). Project-based learning encourages students to work on real-world projects, collaborating with peers to find creative solutions to complex problems. Flipped classrooms leverage technology to deliver instructional content outside of class, allowing in-class time to focus on discussions, activities, and personalized support. Experiential learning immerses students in real-life situations, enabling them to apply theoretical knowledge to practical scenarios.

By adopting these innovative teaching methods, educators can create dynamic learning environments that cater to diverse learning styles and foster students' abilities to think critically, work collaboratively, and adapt to changing circumstances. These methods empower students to become active participants in their education, taking ownership of their learning journey, and preparing them to thrive in an ever-changing global landscape. Moreover, as highlighted by UNESCO (2017), innovative teaching methods contribute to creating inclusive and equitable educational opportunities for all, addressing the diverse needs of learners and promoting lifelong learning.

In conclusion, the evolving educational landscape worldwide necessitates a paradigm shift towards innovative teaching methods that prioritize the development of essential skills for the 21st century. By embracing activity-based learning, project-based learning, flipped classrooms, and experiential learning, educators can equip students with the competencies required to navigate the challenges and demands of the future effectively. These approaches not only enhance students' academic knowledge but also nurture their critical thinking, problem-solving, and creativity, positioning them as active

contributors to a dynamic global society.

#### **4. Understanding Activity-Based Teaching Learning**

Activity-based teaching and learning is an educational approach that emphasizes active student engagement through hands-on activities, problem-solving tasks, group discussions, and practical experiences. This student-centered method encourages learners to actively participate in the learning process, leading to better retention of information and the development of critical thinking skills (Hmelo-Silver, 2004). Activity-based learning allows educators to tailor activities to match students' individual learning styles, preferences, and abilities. By accommodating diverse needs, students feel more connected to the material and are more likely to grasp the content on a deeper level (Barak et al., 2020). Research by Piaget (1964) suggests that active learning experiences contribute to long-term memory retention. When students actively participate in activities and experiences, they are more likely to retain and recall the learned information even after a significant period. Activity-based learning encourages the application and transfer of knowledge to various contexts. Students can connect the theoretical concepts to real-life situations, making learning more relevant and preparing them for practical challenges (Mallick et al., 2021). Activity-based learning fosters creativity by encouraging students to explore and experiment with different solutions. It provides opportunities for innovative thinking, allowing students to develop a deeper appreciation for creative problem-solving (Ho, 2018). Many activity-based learning methods involve group work and presentations, which enhance students' communication and public speaking abilities (Johnson & Johnson, 1999). Such skills are valuable in academic, professional, and personal settings. Engaging and enjoyable learning experiences in activity-based teaching create a positive association with education. This positive reinforcement can lead to a love for learning, resulting in more self-motivated and self-directed students (Vygotsky, 1978). Activity-based learning can cater to diverse learning needs and promote inclusivity in the classroom. Students with varying abilities and backgrounds can actively participate and contribute to the learning process (Harlen, 2006).

In conclusion, activity-based teaching and learning provide numerous benefits that foster student engagement and lead to a deeper understanding of the subject matter. By actively involving students in hands-on experiences, promoting critical thinking, and offering personalized learning opportunities, this approach creates a dynamic and enriching educational environment that prepares students to become lifelong learners and successful problem solvers in the ever-changing world.

#### **5. The Role of a Teacher in Activity-Based Learning**

The shift from traditional teaching to a facilitator or guide in activity-based learning represents a fundamental change in the role of educators. In traditional teaching methods, teachers typically take on a more authoritarian role, where they primarily act as the primary source of knowledge and deliver information to passive learners. However, activity-based learning requires teachers to transition into a more student-centered approach, becoming facilitators or guides who support and guide students through their learning journey.

In activity-based learning, teachers are no longer the sole dispensers of knowledge but instead play the role of facilitators who create opportunities for students to engage in hands-on activities and discovery. They set the stage for learning by designing meaningful and relevant learning experiences that encourage critical thinking, problem-solving, and collaboration. By acting as guides, teachers help students navigate the learning process, providing support, encouragement, and scaffolding when needed. In the context of activity-based teaching and learning, the role of a teacher takes on new dimensions compared to traditional teaching methods. Let's analyze the key responsibilities of a teacher in this context, supported by relevant references:

**1. Curriculum Design and Activity Planning:** Teachers are responsible for designing and organizing engaging learning activities that align with the curriculum objectives. They need to identify

appropriate hands-on tasks, projects, and problem-solving exercises that promote active student participation and deeper understanding (Hmelo-Silver, 2004).

**2.Creating a Supportive Learning Environment:** Teachers foster a positive and inclusive classroom climate that encourages students to feel comfortable taking risks and sharing their ideas. They establish an environment that values curiosity, open inquiry, and respect for diverse perspectives (Johnson & Johnson, 1999).

**3.Facilitating Learning Experiences:** The teacher's primary role is to facilitate learning experiences by guiding students through various activities. They provide explanations, answer questions, and offer support as needed while ensuring that students remain actively engaged in the learning process (Hmelo-Silver, 2004).

**4.Individualized Instruction:** Teachers recognize that students have different learning styles, interests, and abilities. They strive to provide personalized instruction by adapting activities to meet the needs of individual learners, promoting a more inclusive and effective learning environment (Kirschner et al., 2006).

**5.Encouraging Critical Thinking and Problem-Solving:** Teachers promote critical thinking skills by asking thought-provoking questions, challenging students to analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information independently. They guide students to solve problems creatively and independently, fostering their problem-solving capabilities (Hmelo-Silver, 2004).

**6.Providing Feedback and Assessment:** Teachers offer constructive feedback to students on their performance, highlighting areas of strength and areas for improvement. They use a variety of assessment methods to gauge students' progress and understanding of the concepts (Kirschner et al., 2006).

**7.Cultivating Collaboration and Communication:** Teachers create opportunities for collaborative learning experiences, encouraging students to work together in groups or pairs. They facilitate effective communication and active participation in group activities (Johnson & Johnson, 1999).

**8.Encouraging Reflection and Metacognition:** Teachers prompt students to reflect on their learning experiences, helping them understand their thinking processes and guiding them to set goals for continuous improvement (Hmelo-Silver, 2004).

**9.Professional Development:** Teachers are committed to their own professional growth and development, seeking opportunities to enhance their knowledge of innovative teaching methods, technology integration, and subject matter expertise (UNESCO, 2017).

**10.Advocating for Student Success:** Ultimately, teachers advocate for the success and well-being of their students. They act as mentors and role models, inspiring students to reach their full potential and become lifelong learners (Sahlberg, 2015).

In conclusion, the key responsibilities of a teacher in the context of activity-based teaching and learning encompass curriculum design, creating a supportive environment, facilitating learning experiences, providing individualized instruction, promoting critical thinking, offering feedback, fostering collaboration, encouraging reflection, and investing in professional development. By fulfilling these roles, teachers can create an engaging and student-centered learning environment that empowers students to become active learners and prepares them for success in a rapidly changing world.

## 6. Teacher Preparation and Professional Development

The importance of teacher training in activity-based learning is crucial for the successful implementation of this innovative educational approach. In both Indian and international contexts, well-trained teachers play a pivotal role in creating engaging and effective activity-based learning environments that foster student engagement and deeper understanding.

Research has shown that teacher training significantly impacts the quality of activity-based learning experiences. In the Indian context, a study by Varshney and Soni (2018) emphasized that teacher training in activity-based learning positively influences the pedagogical practices of teachers and enhances their ability to design and implement engaging activities. In another Indian study, Sinha

(2016) highlighted that proper training equips teachers with the skills and confidence needed to manage student-centered classrooms effectively, leading to improved learning outcomes. Internationally, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) conducted a study on teacher professional development in activity-based learning and found that effective training programs help teachers understand the theoretical foundations of this approach, develop practical strategies, and adapt activities to cater to diverse learners (OECD, 2018). Additionally, a meta-analysis by Nezami, Harandi, and Karami (2020) demonstrated that teacher training significantly influences the effectiveness of activity-based learning, leading to higher academic achievement and increased student motivation. To prepare teachers for effective implementation of activity-based learning, various approaches can be adopted:

- **Workshops and Seminars:** Conducting workshops and seminars focused on activity-based learning can introduce teachers to its principles, benefits, and practical strategies. These sessions can provide hands-on experiences and allow teachers to explore various activities relevant to their subject areas.
- **Coaching and Mentoring:** Experienced activity-based learning practitioners can serve as mentors to guide and support teachers in their implementation efforts. One-on-one coaching and feedback sessions can help teachers refine their skills and overcome challenges.
- **Action Research Projects:** Involving teachers in action research projects related to activity-based learning allows them to experiment with different methods, reflect on their practices, and collaborate with colleagues to improve their pedagogy (Sarma & Yadav, 2020).
- **Online Courses and Webinars:** Offering online courses and webinars on activity-based learning can provide flexibility and reach a wider audience of teachers, including those in remote or underserved areas.
- **Collaborative Learning Communities:** Establishing professional learning communities where teachers can collaborate, share ideas, and discuss best practices in activity-based learning fosters a culture of continuous improvement (UNESCO, 2017).
- **Continuous Support and Follow-up:** Providing ongoing support, follow-up sessions, and resources beyond initial training ensures that teachers continue to develop their skills and maintain their enthusiasm for activity-based learning (Nezami et al., 2020).

In conclusion, teacher training is crucial for effective implementation of activity-based learning in both Indian and international contexts. Proper training equips teachers with the necessary knowledge, skills, and confidence to design engaging learning experiences that promote student engagement and deeper understanding. By adopting various training approaches, education systems can empower teachers to embrace activity-based learning and create meaningful learning experiences that prepare students for success in the dynamic 21st-century world.

## 7. Challenges and Solutions

Adopting activity-based teaching and learning comes with its set of challenges for teachers in both Indian and international contexts. It is essential to address these challenges to ensure successful implementation. Here are some common challenges and potential solutions based on references:

### 7.1 Challenges

- **Time Constraints:** Teachers may find it challenging to incorporate hands-on activities and experiential learning within the limited time of a typical school day (Bektas & Kumtepe, 2019).
- **Curriculum Pressures:** Rigorous curriculum requirements and standardized testing may leave little room for teachers to explore innovative teaching methods like activity-based learning (Varshney & Soni, 2018).
- **Classroom Management:** Managing student behavior and maintaining discipline during active learning activities can be a concern, especially in large classrooms (Nezami et al., 2020).
- **Resource Limitations:** Access to adequate materials, technology, and space for activity-based learning can be limited, particularly in resource-constrained schools (Sarma & Yadav, 2020).

## 7.2 Potential Solutions

- **Integrating Activity-Based Learning:** Teachers can strategically integrate activity-based learning within the existing curriculum to address time constraints. They can plan short, focused activities that complement traditional teaching methods, gradually increasing the use of active learning techniques over time (Bektas & Kumtepe, 2019).
- **Curriculum Flexibility and Support:** Education authorities can provide flexible curricular frameworks that allow teachers to incorporate activity-based learning. They can also offer professional development opportunities and resources to support teachers in adopting this approach (Varshney & Soni, 2018).
- **Classroom Management Strategies:** Providing teachers with effective classroom management strategies specific to activity-based learning can help them maintain a positive and engaging learning environment. Techniques such as group norms, clear instructions, and cooperative learning structures can assist in managing student behavior (Nezami et al., 2020).
- **Resource Mobilization:** Schools and policymakers can work together to allocate resources to support activity-based learning. This may include securing funding for materials, technology, and teacher training programs to ensure equitable access to resources (Sarma & Yadav, 2020).
- **Peer Collaboration:** Encouraging teachers to collaborate with their peers in professional learning communities can be beneficial. Through collaboration, they can share ideas, resources, and best practices related to activity-based teaching and learning (UNESCO, 2017).

In conclusion, teachers face various challenges in adopting activity-based teaching and learning, including time constraints, curriculum pressures, classroom management, and resource limitations. However, with appropriate solutions, such as integrating activities into the curriculum, providing curriculum flexibility and support, implementing effective classroom management strategies, mobilizing resources, and fostering peer collaboration, these challenges can be addressed successfully. By recognizing and overcoming these obstacles, activity-based learning can become a powerful and effective pedagogical approach to enhance student engagement and promote deeper understanding in both Indian and international educational settings.

## 8. Case Studies: Successful Implementation

### Case Study 1: Finland's Educational Transformation

#### Country: Finland

In the early 2000s, Finland embarked on an ambitious educational transformation that emphasized activity-based teaching and learning. The Finnish education system shifted away from traditional, exam-focused methods towards a student-centered approach. The key factors contributing to the success of this transformation include:

- **Teacher Training and Autonomy:** Finnish teachers undergo rigorous training that prepares them to be skilled facilitators in activity-based learning. They are given a high degree of autonomy in their classrooms, allowing them to tailor activities to meet the needs of individual students (Sahlberg, 2015).
- **Focus on Play and Creativity:** The Finnish education system values play and creativity as essential components of learning. This approach fosters intrinsic motivation and curiosity among students, leading to deeper engagement and understanding (Sahlberg, 2015).
- **Minimal Standardized Testing:** Finland significantly reduced the emphasis on standardized testing, shifting the focus towards holistic learning outcomes and comprehensive assessments. This change allowed teachers to prioritize activities that promote critical thinking and problem-solving (Sahlberg, 2015).

### Case Study 2: High Tech High Schools, USA

#### Country: United States

High Tech High (HTH) schools in the United States are known for their innovative approach to education, emphasizing project-based learning and technology integration. The success of HTH

schools can be attributed to the following factors:

- **Project-Based Learning:** HTH schools use project-based learning extensively, where students engage in real-world projects that require problem-solving, collaboration, and creativity. This approach provides students with meaningful learning experiences and fosters a deeper understanding of the subject matter (Abdullah et al., 2016).
- **Interdisciplinary Approach:** HTH schools promote interdisciplinary learning, encouraging students to connect concepts across various subjects. This integration of knowledge enhances students' ability to see the bigger picture and develop critical thinking skills (Lombardi et al., 2014).
- **Supportive Culture:** The school environment at HTH is characterized by a supportive culture, where teachers act as mentors, and students feel empowered to take ownership of their learning. This atmosphere of trust and collaboration contributes to students' engagement and enthusiasm for learning (Lombardi et al., 2014).

### Case Study 3: SEED Schools, India

**Country:** India

SEED Schools in India are an example of successful activity-based teaching and learning in the Indian context. SEED (Society for Educational Excellence and Development) schools adopt a child-centric approach and have achieved significant improvements in learning outcomes. The key factors contributing to their success include:

- **Hands-On Learning:** SEED Schools incorporate hands-on learning experiences, such as experiments, field trips, and interactive activities, to make learning engaging and relevant (Nangia & Arya, 2016).
- **Teacher Training:** SEED Schools invest in comprehensive teacher training programs to equip educators with the skills and pedagogical knowledge needed for effective implementation of activity-based learning (Nangia & Arya, 2016).
- **Integration of Technology:** SEED Schools leverage technology to enhance learning experiences. The use of audio-visual aids, digital resources, and interactive tools supports student engagement and understanding (Nangia & Arya, 2016).

In conclusion, these case studies from different countries demonstrate successful implementations of activity-based teaching and learning. Common contributing factors to their success include comprehensive teacher training, student-centered approaches, project-based learning, interdisciplinary connections, supportive learning environments, and the integration of technology. By prioritizing these factors and tailoring them to their specific contexts, educational institutions worldwide can effectively adopt and implement activity-based teaching and learning, leading to improved student engagement, deeper understanding, and overall educational excellence.

## 9. Global Perspectives on Activity-Based Learning

The adoption and impact of activity-based learning (ABL) can vary across different countries due to differences in educational systems, cultural norms, and resources. However, some common best practices and lessons learned can be observed:

- **Finland:** Finland's successful adoption of ABL is characterized by teacher autonomy, a focus on play and creativity, and a reduced emphasis on standardized testing. The key lesson learned from Finland is the importance of empowering teachers and trusting them to design engaging and effective learning experiences tailored to their students' needs.
- **United States:** High Tech High (HTH) schools in the USA have demonstrated the impact of project-based learning and interdisciplinary approaches. Best practices from HTH schools include integrating real-world projects, fostering a supportive school culture, and encouraging student agency in their learning.
- **India:** SEED Schools in India have shown the positive impact of hands-on learning experiences and technology integration. Teacher training and the use of digital resources are essential best practices that contribute to successful ABL implementation in Indian schools.

- **Singapore:** Singapore has adopted ABL as part of its efforts to promote critical thinking and problem-solving skills among students. Best practices in Singapore include designing activities that align with the curriculum, providing ongoing teacher professional development, and encouraging collaborative learning.
- **South Korea:** South Korea has embraced ABL to enhance students' creativity and innovation. Best practices in South Korea include creating opportunities for experiential learning, integrating arts and creativity into the curriculum, and promoting self-directed learning.
- **Australia:** Australian schools have implemented ABL to foster students' social skills and teamwork. Best practices in Australia include creating collaborative learning environments, incorporating group activities, and promoting reflection on learning experiences.
- **Canada:** Canadian schools have emphasized ABL to develop students' critical thinking and problem-solving abilities. Best practices in Canada include engaging students in real-world problem-solving tasks, providing opportunities for student-led inquiries, and integrating technology for learning enhancement.

In conclusion, the adoption and impact of ABL vary across countries, but common best practices and lessons learned include teacher autonomy, minimal standardized testing, project-based learning, student agency, supportive school culture, teacher training, technology integration, curriculum alignment, ongoing professional development, and continuous reflection. These practices, when tailored to the specific context of each country, can enhance ABL implementation and lead to improved student engagement, deeper understanding, and overall learning outcomes.

## 10. Future Directions and Recommendations

### 10.1 Potential Future Trends in Activity-Based Teaching Learning

- **Personalized Learning:** Activity-based teaching and learning are expected to move towards more personalized approaches, tailoring activities to meet the unique learning needs, interests, and preferences of individual students. Personalization can be achieved through technology-enabled adaptive learning platforms that assess students' abilities and offer customized activities (Banerjee et al., 2021).
- **Gamification and Immersive Experiences:** The incorporation of gamification elements and immersive experiences, such as virtual reality and augmented reality, is likely to become more prevalent in activity-based learning. Gamified activities can enhance motivation and engagement, while immersive technologies provide realistic and interactive learning experiences (Pegrum et al., 2019).
- **Project-Based Learning (PBL) Expansion:** PBL, already a significant component of activity-based learning, is expected to expand further in the future. As students work on real-world projects, they develop critical thinking, problem-solving, and collaboration skills, making PBL an essential approach to prepare students for future challenges (Cohen & Cipollone, 2021).
- **Cross-Curricular and Interdisciplinary Learning:** Activity-based learning will increasingly emphasize cross-curricular and interdisciplinary approaches, allowing students to explore connections between different subjects and apply knowledge in holistic contexts (Kavak et al., 2020).
- **Virtual Collaboration and Global Interaction:** Technology will facilitate virtual collaboration and global interaction among students from different countries and cultural backgrounds. Activity-based learning can offer opportunities for international partnerships and cross-cultural understanding (Wang et al., 2021).

## 11. Recommendations for Policymakers and Educators

- **Comprehensive Teacher Training:** Policymakers should prioritize comprehensive teacher training programs that equip educators with the pedagogical skills and technology proficiency needed for effective activity-based teaching and learning (Karim et al., 2018).

- **Curriculum Reforms:** Policymakers should promote curriculum reforms that provide flexibility and space for activity-based learning integration. Aligning learning objectives with activity-based experiences ensures coherence and relevance (Cheng et al., 2021).
- **Investment in Technology Infrastructure:** Policymakers should invest in robust technology infrastructure, ensuring that schools have access to reliable internet connectivity, digital devices, and software tools for seamless integration of technology in activity-based learning (UNESCO, 2017).
- **Research and Evaluation:** Policymakers should encourage research and evaluation of activity-based learning initiatives to gather evidence of its impact on student outcomes and engagement. Evidence-based findings can inform policy decisions and educational practices (Karim et al., 2018).
- **Teacher Collaboration and Learning Communities:** Educators should be encouraged to collaborate within and across schools through learning communities. Sharing best practices, experiences, and resources can enhance the quality and effectiveness of activity-based teaching and learning (Karim et al., 2018).
- **Parental and Community Involvement:** Policymakers and educators should involve parents and the community in supporting activity-based learning initiatives. Engaging parents in their children's learning experiences and highlighting the benefits of ABL can garner broader support (León-Urrutia et al., 2019).
- **Professional Development Opportunities:** Continuous professional development opportunities for teachers should be made available, enabling them to stay updated with emerging trends, research, and innovative practices in activity-based teaching and learning (Banerjee et al., 2021).

By implementing these recommendations, both in the Indian and international contexts, policymakers and educators can promote the integration of activity-based teaching and learning. Embracing emerging trends and leveraging technology while providing appropriate support and training for teachers will create a dynamic and effective learning environment that nurtures students' critical thinking, problem-solving skills, and lifelong love for learning.

## 12. Conclusion

In conclusion, activity-based teaching and learning offer a transformative and student-centered educational approach that prioritizes engagement, critical thinking, and active participation. As the global learning system evolves to meet the demands of the 21st century, embracing innovative methods like activity-based learning becomes essential to equip students with essential skills for the future. The central role of teachers as facilitators and guides is pivotal to the success of this approach, and their continuous professional development is crucial for its effective implementation. While challenges may arise, strategic solutions can overcome these obstacles. Looking ahead, incorporating personalized learning, gamification, interdisciplinary approaches, and virtual collaboration further enhances the potential of activity-based teaching and learning. Policymakers and educators must prioritize comprehensive teacher training, curriculum reforms, technology investment, research, collaboration, and continuous development to unlock the full benefits of activity-based learning. By fostering active learners and promoting critical thinking, activity-based teaching and learning pave the way for a dynamic, interconnected, and successful future for education worldwide.

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