

Analyzing a Task or Project for Student Engagement

Examine the scenario in the following table, and answer the questions. Then, compare your answers to the authors' responses.

<p>Scenario: After studying different cultures' food, teams of students select a different ethnic style of food. One team likes Chinese food, and it decides to research the healing properties of rice in Chinese culture. The team picks the best recipe for its healing properties and creates a multimedia presentation to justify its selection to the class. Students are so excited that they cook the recipe at home and bring it to the class for other students to sample.</p>	
<p>Level of Student Engagement</p>	<p>What is the level of engagement of this task? Why do you think so?</p>
<p>Ways to Raise the Level of Student Engagement</p>	<p>What are some ways to increase the student-engagement level for this task?</p>
<p>New Level of Student Engagement</p>	<p>What is the new level of engagement?</p>

Authors' Responses

Compare your answers to the authors' responses to the scenario questions.

Level of Student Engagement

This task is at level 4. The students decide on their content, process, and product through collaboration with other students and the teacher. It is an inquiry-based approach since students decide on the question and direct the research toward the healing properties of rice on their own.

Ways to Raise the Level of Student Engagement

This activity could reach a higher level if the students initiate collaborations beyond the classroom, such as with a cook from a local Chinese restaurant, to learn more original and authentic cooking methods. Finally, the teacher and students could collaboratively create an assessment rubric for the student-designed projects.

New Level of Student Engagement

This level of engagement could be level 5, depending on activities the students choose to complete.