

Adult learning – Mental Skills

Bloom's Taxonomy

Bloom's Taxonomy has been a staple of educators for decades, particularly in the cognitive domain. Educators of both children and adults must be aware of the theory's history and how it has changed over the years. A fundamental understanding of Bloom's Taxonomy is essential, particularly when attempting to implement it in the classroom.

Definition

The cognitive domain is what most people associate with education because it is knowledge based. Focusing on the cognitive domain increases intellectual capability. The six levels of the domain move from the simplest at the bottom to the most complex at the top. Some educators, however, do not follow the prescribed order of stages. There is also some disagreement as to whether the original or updated version of the domain is more effective. Situations that require more creative activities typically benefit better from the updated version.

Types of Knowledge

Bloom's original cognitive domain identified three different types or levels of knowledge. These were factual, conceptual, and procedural. The updated domain added a fourth level, the metacognitive. Understanding these levels of knowledge and their differences is necessary for implementing the cognitive domain.