

Modern Technology and the Dilemma of Teaching Ecological Concepts

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Abstract

There are always two sides to any discussion of the effects of modern technology. On one hand, when technology is applied to teaching and learning activities it provides a better and quicker method of absorbing new information and communicating than do traditional teaching methods. This is especially true for science education and teaching with computers. On the other hand, modern technology is thought to be the main reason for the deterioration of our natural environment. It is therefore the responsibility of educators to convey information to the next generation about what technology can do to the environment and how to promote an ecologically sustainable culture.

Once educators understand the characteristics of modern technology, they will be better prepared to develop thoughts of ecologically sustainable culture among students. In doing so, educators should pay more attention to establishing relationships between human beings and nature, as well as between technology and culture, rather than focusing on science and technology only.

Key Words: modern technology, philosophy of technology, constructivism, ecologically sustainable culture

