

1974

ISTS Meeting

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lated to a prescription sheet. The results of the pretest are recorded on the prescription sheet. From this assignments are given in the packet which help each student learn the concepts. The rationale and main objectives, along with any special instructions, precede the learning activities. Learning activities comprise the main body of the packet. Subtitles and objectives are spaced throughout the packet as they relate to a specific learning experience. Explanations of each concept, with the major concept and including examples, are given here with problems and space for working them. After completing the work for each concept, the student takes a self-test or checkup which enables him and the teacher to know how well he is progressing in the packet. At the completion of the entire packet the student takes a post-test. With the results of this test he fills out an evaluation sheet.

The evaluation sheet consists of four parts in which the student rates himself on a 1-10 basis. The four areas which are evaluated are (1) academic work and/or laboratory procedures, (2) communication, (3) responsibility, and (4) post-test score. After the student has evaluated himself, the teacher then evaluates the student using the same categories. Together the teacher and student arrive at a score for the packet.

With packet education there is more enthusiasm on the part of the students than with other approaches. It is designed to let a student progress at his own speed, mastering one concept before going on to the next. Since many students progress with only occasional guidance and help, the packet approach gives the teacher an opportunity to spend more time with those students who need more attention.

If you are intrigued by packet education, the Urbandale Junior High Math/Science Department would like to extend an invitation for you to visit and see how it works.

ISTS MEETING

The 86th session of the Iowa Academy of Science will take place at Upper Iowa College, Fayette, on April 19-20, 1974. The Science Teaching section meetings on Friday and Saturday will be especially good this year, with 16 paper presentations covering topics in elementary, secondary, and college science teaching.

Don E. Murphy
Science Teaching Section Chairman
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