

VALBEC 2006

APPLY TO LEARN

A summary of what happened!

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What is applied Learning?

- Hands on
- Nested in 'real life' tasks and texts.
- Starts where learners are at
- Negotiated to meet students interests
- Shares knowledge
- Connects with communities and real life experiences.
- Builds resilience, confidence and self worth – considers the whole person.
- Integrates learning
- Promotes a diversity of learning styles and methods.
- Assesses appropriately.

20 Up

- For concentration, brain awareness, waking you up!
- Try to keep a soft ball up in the air for 20 hits.
- Try with different balls. Try by yourself!

- Every time you hit the ball, call out a word!
- List words that explain/describe what that this was like.
- Create a group poem based on these words.!

Applied learning is 'hands on'.

- Draw your hand on to colored paper
- .Write your name on the hand.
- Throw on the ground or pin to the wall.
- . Find a hand and find a partner!
- Discuss what you think applied learning is?
- You could discuss any topic this way.
- The 'novelty' distracts from the anxiety!

You're Turn!

- Stand in a circle.
- Bounce the 'random' ball (bounces in unexpected directions – available at sports stores)
- If it comes to you, answer the question!
- What is applied learning?
- Write up as you go.
- Develop a definition.

What's Your Opinion?

- Present a topic of discussion or debate.
- Stand in a line, with 'strongly agree' at one end, and 'strongly disagree' at the other end.
- Talk with the person next to you to determine your place.
- Interview people in the line for their responses to the topic..
- Vote anonymously in a secret ballot.
- Do the responses stay the same?

Applying to the task

.How could you make your learning activities more applied? Or, how could you extend it to take into account a range of learning styles?

*For more ideas about applied learning and how you can use it, consider joining VALA
The Victorian Applied Learning Association.*

VALA - Who We are

The Victorian Applied Learning Association (VALA) has been established in response to the rapid growth in Victorian Applied Learning Programs across all sectors of post compulsory education. It will provide a range of professional support and networking opportunities, including professional development and resource sharing to those involved in the delivery and management of Applied Learning Programs such as VCAL, VET in Schools, SBNA and informal and hands-on-learning programs.

VALA will bring together the Secondary Sector ACE, TAFE and private providers all working in the Applied Learning area. VALA intends to support these providers in the program provision and delivery and is in the unique situation to encourage cross sector sharing of and development in resources, professional development and support. services which are provided by other subject associations.

VALA will also raise the profile and status of Applied Learning, and will lead the way to identify key issues and work with key stakeholders across sectors to develop strategies to address these. It is an exciting time for both Applied Learning practitioners and a great opportunity to create and encourage the sharing of good practice across sectors

**If you are interested to join VALA please go to
www.vala.asn.au**