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AverMedia AVerVision Document Camera Essay Contest

A document camera offers a simple way to capture documents, integrating them into a cooperative learning environment. As the educator, I would utilize the document camera in a variety of ways. The first would be basic: as a blackboard to give notes, demonstrate homework problems, and create graphic organizers. Secondly, a geometric approach to illustrate facts about 2D and 3D objects: perimeter, area, surface area, volume. The document camera will assist students in problem solving and integrate real world problems. The camera can display graphs on a graphing calculator. The rotational neck can be utilized to integrate real-life objects including the students. All of these applications are directly aligned with the Arizona High School State Standards for Mathematics.

All students are capable of learning; however, students use different learning styles at different rates to master material. To keep my students engaged, I use a variety of techniques to capture the multiple intelligences (Gardner). Visual learners learn through seeing. Auditory learners learn through listening. Kinesthetic learners learn through moving, doing, and touching. Therefore, I not only use traditional methods of teaching, but also hands on manipulations and cooperative learning techniques, creating a classroom where every student is engaged. Not only will the document camera be used for lessons, but students could showcase their ideas directly to their peers. Demonstrating homework problems, presenting graphical problems, and sharing projects they completed are some of the ways students could benefit from this technology. Ownership is the key to constructivism which spawns commitment, pride, and satisfaction. Once students

engage themselves, they start taking ownership in learning, committing themselves to coursework resulting in higher test scores.

A document camera would be a great asset to my classroom. My students and I would significantly benefit from the ability to use document camera technology in my classroom.

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