

Title: MythBusters! The Inquiry-Based Learning (IBL) Approach to Games & Sports

“If your goal is to engage students in critical thinking... you need to present interesting challenges to solve, rather than simply explaining how other smart people have already solved those challenges.”
Therese Huston (2019)

We asked ourselves: how do we continue to teach engaging PE lessons in Phase 1 when our students return to school after being away for two months? Edgefield Primary, together with PESTA, explored the Inquiry-Based Learning (IBL) approach in PE whilst engaging students to develop motor skills acquisition in the different Games and Sports segment.

Whilst on the journey, the team gathered many insights, and these will be shared during the presentation. They are:

1. The process is grounded in the curriculum;
2. The process provides the opportunity to extend learning;
3. The process is recursive;
4. The student is involved in the construction of knowledge;
5. The process starts with questions/wonderings; and
6. Higher-order thinking is involved

We will be taking participants through the pedagogical processes involved when we taught Games and Sports skills using the IBL approach during the Phase 1 (Safe Re-opening) period. Participants will also be able to develop a deeper understanding of the various possibilities of incorporating IBL in PE. Participants will be led to think about the various challenges surrounding IBL in PE, hence gaining a greater understanding of the nuts and bolts of teaching skills acquisition using IBL approach. What kept us motivated was the heart-warming feedback by teachers and students! The restrictions presented before us during this pandemic, gave us an opportunity to explore the unexplored within safe boundaries!