



MOTIVATION AND ENGAGEMENT IN TEACHING LEARNING PROCESS AT BASIC LEVEL IN NEPAL

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Abstract

This research article, Motivation and Engagement in Teaching Learning Process at Basic Level in Nepal aims to examine how motivation and engagement influence the learning experience. The study's objective is to uncover the ways in which these two factors contribute to students' learning. The article employs a qualitative research design, utilizing methods like open-ended questions, teacher interviews, and literature reviews to gather data. The goal is to identify effective strategies to enhance student engagement and motivation. Ultimately, the study aims to deepen the understanding of the significance of engagement and motivation within the broader educational process, offering practical recommendations for educational practice and policy. Teachers' opinions vary, with some believing both factors (motivation and engagement) are equally crucial, while others prioritize engagement over motivation or vice versa. The key finding is that both engagement and motivation are vital in the learning process, though their influence differs depending on the educational context.

Keywords: Engagement, Motivation, Learning process, educational strategies

Introduction

The learning process of students is influenced by various factors, including psychological, social, physical, emotional, and environmental elements. This article focuses on two key factors: student engagement and motivation. Engagement refers to how much students are involved and actively participating in the learning process, while motivation refers to the internal and external forces that drive students to pursue their education.

Education is crucial for societal progress, as it provides individuals with the necessary knowledge, skills, and critical thinking abilities needed for personal and collective development (UNESCO, 2015). In Nepal, the government has made significant efforts to improve the educational system and boost student engagement and motivation in classrooms. However, challenges remain in making teaching and learning more effective, leading to the ongoing debate over whether engagement or motivation is more critical in the learning experience of students.

Student engagement and motivation are key elements of successful education. Engagement refers to the level of attention, curiosity, interest, and passion that students exhibit during learning (Fredricks, Blumenfeld, & Paris, 2004). It's especially important for less active students as it helps spark their interest and focus. Motivation, on the other hand, is the driving force behind students' actions, involving their desire and willingness to put in effort toward achieving their goals (Ryan & Deci, 2000). Essentially, motivation is crucial for the learning process because, without it, students cannot be fully engaged in their studies. In the learning process, engagement and motivation are closely linked, both playing a significant role in how well students absorb knowledge, retain information, and develop a genuine enthusiasm for learning (Skinner & Belmont, 1993).

The Nepalese government has introduced various measures to enhance classroom experiences and boost student engagement and motivation. For example, they have reformed the curriculum to make learning more interesting and relevant by incorporating practical applications (Shrestha, 2019). Additionally, teacher training programs have been given priority to help educators develop the skills needed to create dynamic and interactive learning environments (Gautam, 2016).

Despite these commendable efforts, significant challenges continue to plague the education system, particularly in the areas of resource distribution and outdated teaching methodologies. The persistent disparities in educational opportunities, exacerbated by unequal resource allocation, severely hinder optimal levels of engagement and motivation, especially in remote and marginalized communities (Dahal, 2020). Furthermore, the entrenched rote-learning culture, which prioritizes memorization over meaningful learning experiences, detrimentally impacts students' intrinsic motivation and critical thinking abilities (Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, 2019). This narrow focus on rote learning stifles creativity and discourages students from developing a deeper understanding of the material.

This article seeks to critically examine the significance of student engagement and motivation in the learning process within the context of Nepal's educational landscape. By analyzing the strengths and shortcomings of current educational initiatives, this study aims to determine whether engagement or motivation plays a more crucial role in fostering effective learning outcomes. Through a comprehensive review of relevant literature, qualitative data, and theoretical frameworks, this article will provide insights and recommendations for enhancing student-centered pedagogies and promoting holistic development in Nepalese classrooms. Additionally, the study will explore the potential benefits of integrating modern teaching methods, such as project-based learning and digital education tools, to better meet the diverse needs of students. By addressing these challenges, Nepal can move towards a more inclusive, empowering, and effective educational system that truly prioritizes the needs and aspirations of its diverse student

population. Furthermore, the article will consider the role of teacher training and professional development in ensuring the successful implementation of these pedagogical changes. Lastly, it will discuss the importance of community and parental involvement in creating a supportive learning environment that nurtures student engagement and motivation.

Objective

The primary aim of this article is to compare the significance of student engagement versus motivation in the teaching and learning process. The study seeks to identify and analyze the factors that influence both student engagement and motivation within the learning environment.

The specific objectives of this study will be as follows:

- To analyze the individual impact of student engagement on learning outcomes.
- To assess the effect of motivation on student learning.
- To investigate the combined effect of engagement and motivation on academic success.
- To identify educational contexts where student engagement is more influential than motivation.
- To determine situations where motivation plays a more crucial role than engagement in influencing learning outcomes.

Research Questions

- How does student engagement individually influence learning outcomes?
- How does motivation on its own impact student learning?
- What is the combined effect of both engagement and motivation on academic success?
- Are there specific educational contexts where student engagement is more influential than motivation?
- Are there situations where motivation plays a more crucial role than engagement in influencing learning outcomes?

Methodology

For this qualitative research article, data was gathered through a combination of semi-structured interviews, open-ended questions, and a review of relevant literature. The participants in this study are current school teachers. To collect the necessary data, in-person interviews were conducted with these teachers. The data were then described and interpreted using descriptive language. The study draws on both primary and secondary data sources, with information gathered from teachers at three different schools to ensure coverage of all subjects. The research also involved studying various documents, including the Education Act and Regulation, the School Education Sector Plan, the National Curriculum Framework, the National Education Policy, the Digital Nepal Framework, the School Sector Reform Plan 2009-2015, and the School Sector Development Plan.

Literature Review

Research consistently demonstrates that both engagement and motivation are crucial components for achieving positive learning outcomes. Fredricks, Blumenfeld, and Paris (2004) describe engagement as comprising behavioral, emotional, and cognitive aspects, each of which plays a distinct role in enhancing student learning. In contrast, Ryan and Deci (2000) emphasize the importance of both intrinsic and extrinsic motivation in maintaining a long-term interest in educational activities.

Research findings indicate that students who are engaged tend to attend classes more consistently, participate actively, and achieve higher academic results (Kuh et al., 2008). Similarly, motivated students are more likely to demonstrate persistence, put in greater effort, and attain higher levels of achievement (Schunk, Pintrich, & Meece, 2008). However, the relative significance of engagement and motivation, as well as how they interact within various educational environments, remains an area requiring further exploration. Engagement refers to a student's level of interest, enthusiasm, and dedication toward their studies. The School Education Sector Plan suggests that engagement is crucial for effective learning outcomes because it encourages active participation and fosters a deeper understanding of the subject matter (Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, 2022). The National Curriculum Framework also underscores the importance of engaging, interactive, and student-centered learning environments, arguing that engaged students are more likely to achieve academic success (Curriculum Development Center, 2020).

Motivation, on the other hand, is the inner drive that encourages a student to pursue learning. The National Education Policy identifies motivation as a key factor influencing students' willingness to learn and persist through challenges (Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, 2019). Motivation can be intrinsic, stemming from personal interest and enjoyment in a subject, or extrinsic, driven by external rewards and recognition. The Digital Nepal Framework supports this by advocating for the use of digital tools and resources to motivate students through interactive and personalized learning experiences (Ministry of Communication and Information Technology, 2019).

Engagement and motivation are both essential components of the educational process, and their roles are complementary rather than mutually exclusive. The School Sector Reform Plan 2009-2015 and the School Sector Development Plan emphasize the need for strategies that enhance both engagement and motivation to achieve comprehensive educational development (Ministry of Education, 2009). Engaged students are often more motivated to learn, while motivated students are more likely to immerse themselves in the content.

The review of these policy documents suggests that a balanced approach, which promotes both engagement and motivation, is crucial for optimizing learning outcomes. The Education Act and Regulation advocate for creating supportive and stimulating educational environments, thus addressing both aspects concurrently. Therefore, effective educational strategies should focus on actively engaging students while also nurturing their intrinsic and extrinsic motivations.

In summary, the literature and policy analysis from Nepal highlight the importance of both engagement and motivation in the learning process. These factors work in tandem to enhance educational outcomes, and educational policies should support both to foster a more effective and holistic learning experience. Research further underscores the role of positive teacher-student

relationships in promoting engagement and motivation, noting that a supportive and respectful dynamic can significantly improve students' attitudes towards learning and their participation in classroom activities (Roorda et al., 2011).

Curriculum that resonates with students' interests, life experiences, and real-world scenarios significantly boosts their intrinsic motivation and engagement (Connell & Wellborn, 1991). When students find the curriculum relevant and meaningful to their personal lives, they are more inclined to immerse themselves in the material and develop a genuine passion for learning. By incorporating practical applications and culturally pertinent resources into the curriculum, educators can further amplify students' motivation and foster active participation in classroom activities.

Effective instructional strategies are pivotal in enhancing student engagement and motivation (Skinner et al., 2008). Methods that involve active learning, such as encouraging student participation, teamwork, and independence, can significantly elevate students' interest and enthusiasm. Inquiry-based learning, for instance, allows students to investigate concepts on their own, promoting a sense of ownership and intrinsic drive (Hmelo-Silver et al., 2007). Additionally, integrating interactive and hands-on learning experiences into lessons makes the learning process more engaging and participatory.

Creating a positive and inclusive classroom environment is crucial for sustaining high levels of student engagement and motivation (Fredricks et al., 2004). When students feel secure, valued, and respected within their learning environment, they are more likely to engage actively and take responsibility for their education. Classrooms that encourage collaboration, peer interaction, and mutual support foster a strong sense of community and intrinsic motivation among students. This supportive atmosphere not only enhances academic engagement but also contributes to students' overall well-being and academic success.

Clarifying learning objectives and expectations helps students grasp the purpose and relevance of their activities (Ryan & Deci, 2000). When students clearly understand what is required of them and how their efforts contribute to their goals, they are more likely to remain motivated and engaged.

Providing students with choices and autonomy in their learning tasks can boost their motivation and sense of ownership (Schunk & Zimmerman, 2008). Allowing students to decide how they approach assignments and projects lets them explore topics of interest and engage more deeply with the material.

Incorporating multimedia resources and technology into lessons can capture students' interest and enhance motivation (Tomlinson, 2001). Tools like interactive simulations, virtual labs, and multimedia presentations offer engaging ways for students to interact with content and improve their understanding.

Differentiated instruction adapts teaching methods and materials to meet diverse learning needs and preferences (Tomlinson, 2001). By addressing individual strengths and challenges, educators can foster inclusive learning environments that encourage engagement and motivation for all students.

Encouraging a growth mindset and intrinsic goal orientation can strengthen students' self-efficacy and perseverance (Dweck, 2006; Ames, 1992). Promoting the idea that challenges are opportunities for growth and focusing on effort and progress rather than just outcomes can build resilience and sustained motivation.

The Interest Regulation Model posits that individuals manage their interest in learning activities by using strategies that enhance their engagement (Sansone et al., 1992). When students develop their own techniques to make tasks more engaging and meaningful, they can maintain their motivation and involvement, even in less stimulating activities.

In essence, student engagement and motivation are shaped by a range of factors, including strong teacher-student relationships, relevant curriculum, effective instructional methods, and a positive classroom environment. Strategies such as setting clear learning objectives, providing choices and autonomy, integrating multimedia and technology, and encouraging a growth mindset can boost student engagement and motivation. Instructional models like Self-Determination Theory and the Interest Regulation Model offer frameworks for understanding and fostering intrinsic motivation in the classroom. By taking these factors and strategies into account, educators can create vibrant and inclusive learning environments that support student engagement, motivation, and academic success.

Finding and Discussion

In education, the factors that affect student learning are diverse and intricate. Among these, engagement and motivation are particularly vital for academic success and educational outcomes. This article explores the relative importance of engagement versus motivation in the student learning process. By analyzing empirical research and theoretical models, the study aims to clarify the unique roles of engagement and motivation, examine how they interact, and evaluate their effects on student learning and performance. Through a review of existing literature and educational practices, this research seeks to offer insights that can enhance teaching strategies and curriculum design, ultimately fostering a better understanding of what drives effective learning experiences. The following results and discussion will address which is more crucial in the learning process: Engagement or Motivation, based on data obtained from interviews and aligned with the study's objectives.

Role of Teacher-Student Relationships in Engagement and Motivation

The insights gathered from interviews with science teachers highlight the essential impact of teacher-student relationships on enhancing student engagement and motivation. One teacher noted, as follows:

The relationship between teachers and students is fundamental to student engagement. When students experience a connection where they feel valued, recognized, and supported, they become more involved in their learning.

This perspective underscores the importance of cultivating positive, trust-based relationships, which can profoundly influence students' enthusiasm and approach to their studies. The view of the teacher suggests that establishing strong teacher-student

relationships is crucial for fostering an engaging and motivating learning environment. When students perceive their teachers as supportive and caring, it not only boosts their self-esteem but also increases their willingness to participate actively in class. Such relationships create a sense of belonging and relevance, which are key factors in sustaining student interest and motivation. Consequently, educators should prioritize building these positive connections, as they can lead to more meaningful and effective learning experiences. The evidence points to the need for training programs that help teachers develop skills in relationship-building and emotional support, ensuring that all students can benefit from an environment where they feel respected and valued.

The insights gained from interviews with science teachers highlight the pivotal role of teacher-student relationships in enhancing student engagement and motivation, which is consistent with both the literature and relevant policy documents. The Education Act and Regulation of Nepal stress the importance of creating supportive learning environments, which includes nurturing positive teacher-student relationships (Law Book Management Board, 2022). Similarly, the School Education Sector Plan advocates for student-centered methods that emphasize constructive teacher-student interactions (Ministry of Education, 2009). Additionally, the National Education Policy underscores the importance of student engagement in enriching educational experiences and highlights the role of teachers in fostering positive learning environments (Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, 2019). The interviewee's perspective reinforces this view, illustrating how trust and support from teachers encourage students to actively engage in their learning. This underscores the need for continuous professional development and support for teachers to enhance their ability to build effective relationships with students, thereby improving engagement and motivation in the educational process.

Furthermore, the alignment of these findings with national policies suggests a systemic recognition of the value of teacher-student relationships. Educational reforms and school practices must integrate strategies that reinforce these relationships. This includes professional development programs aimed at enhancing relational skills, creating supportive school environments that encourage positive interactions, and implementing policies that acknowledge and reward effective teacher-student engagement. Such alignment between practice and policy can help schools better support teachers in fostering a motivating and engaging learning atmosphere, which, in turn, can enhance student achievement and well-being (Johnson, 2017; Smith & Jones, 2020).

Curriculum Relevance in Student Motivation

The significance of curriculum relevance emerged as a crucial factor affecting student motivation. One educator gave response as follows:

The relevance of the curriculum greatly influences student motivation. When the subjects and applications within the curriculum are made pertinent and relatable to students, they are more likely to focus attentively on their studies.

This view supports existing research, which highlights the need to connect learning experiences with students' interests and real-world situations to boost intrinsic motivation.

This finding about curriculum relevance aligns with insights from the literature, interviews, and policy documents reviewed. The National Curriculum Framework of Nepal emphasizes the role of curriculum design in enhancing student engagement and motivation by integrating real-world contexts and applications (Curriculum Development Center, 2020). Similarly, the School Education Sector Plan advocates for student-centered approaches that align learning experiences with students' interests and backgrounds (Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, 2022). Furthermore, the National Education Policy underscores the importance of curriculum relevance in improving student motivation and learning outcomes, stressing the need for a curriculum that addresses students' needs and ambitions (Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, 2019). The teacher's observation supports the view that making the curriculum relevant is crucial for stimulating student interest and focus, highlighting the need for educators to create curricula that connect with students' experiences and goals to foster intrinsic motivation and engagement.

The relevance of curriculum plays a pivotal role in influencing student motivation. Research consistently shows that curricula aligned with students' interests and real-world contexts enhance their engagement and intrinsic motivation (Curriculum Development Center, 2020). According to the National Curriculum Framework, integrating real-world applications into the curriculum significantly boosts student participation and enthusiasm (Curriculum Development Center, 2020). Similarly, the School Education Sector Plan underscores the importance of designing student-centered curricula that reflect students' interests and experiences to promote effective learning (Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, 2022). This is further supported by the National Education Policy, which highlights that curricula that respond to students' needs and aspirations improve motivation and learning outcomes (Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, 2019).

Effective Instructional Strategies in Students Engagement

Teachers identified several effective strategies for boosting student engagement. They underscored the importance of differentiated instruction and the use of multimedia resources. One teacher noted as follows:

Differentiated instruction allows me to adapt my teaching to various learning styles and needs, addressing students individually and making them feel personally connected.

Differentiated instruction provides the flexibility to adjust teaching strategies to meet a variety of learning styles and needs, allowing for a more personalized educational experience. By implementing differentiated approaches, I can address each student's unique requirements and preferences, ensuring that all students are engaged and supported in their learning journeys. This method not only enhances individual understanding but also promotes a deeper connection between students and the learning material (Tomlinson, 2014). Additionally, it helps in recognizing and valuing the diversity within the classroom, making each student feel seen and acknowledged in their educational process (Santangelo & Tomlinson, 2012).

Moreover, differentiated instruction encourages the use of multiple instructional strategies and assessments, which can be tailored to various levels of readiness and interest. This approach fosters a more inclusive classroom environment where students can explore content in ways that resonate with their individual learning preferences. By adapting lessons to meet diverse needs, educators can create a more engaging and supportive learning atmosphere, ultimately improving student outcomes and satisfaction (Tomlinson, 2014; Santangelo & Tomlinson, 2012). This personalized approach not only helps in bridging learning gaps but also in nurturing a sense of belonging and motivation among students.

Another teacher pointed out as follows:

Using multimedia tools such as audio, video, and graphics makes learning more dynamic and engaging. When students encounter diverse visual materials related to their studies, they grasp the content more effectively and feel more motivated and inspired.

These approaches are supported by research on active learning, which emphasizes student involvement, collaboration, and independence. Incorporating multimedia elements like audio, video, and graphics into educational settings enhances the learning experience by making it more interactive and stimulating. Students exposed to varied visual and auditory materials tend to understand the subject matter more comprehensively and exhibit increased motivation and enthusiasm toward their studies (Mayer, 2009). This engagement is largely due to the multimedia's ability to cater to different learning styles and provide a more vivid representation of complex concepts.

The use of multimedia tools not only aids in the retention of information but also fosters a more engaging educational environment. When learners interact with dynamic content, such as animated graphics or interactive videos, they are more likely to stay focused and retain knowledge (Schroeder, 2016). This approach aligns with the cognitive theory of multimedia learning, which emphasizes that well-designed multimedia can facilitate better learning outcomes by combining visual and auditory stimuli to support cognitive processes.

Effective Strategies for Enhancing Motivation and Engagement among Students

Strategies that enhance interest were identified as crucial for boosting student motivation. Teachers emphasized the need to make learning both exciting and engaging through various methods. One teacher responded as follows:

Strategies that enhance interest help to capture students' attention and encourage active participation. For instance, I involve students in captivating studies and provide them with challenges.

The significance of interest-enhancing strategies is well-supported by both the literature and policy documents. According to the National Curriculum Framework, creating engaging and relevant learning experiences is crucial for increasing student motivation (Curriculum Development Center, 2020). Likewise, the School Education Sector Plan advocates for student-centered approaches that promote active involvement in learning activities (Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, 2022). Additionally, the National Education Policy emphasizes the need to foster student interest and active engagement to boost motivation and improve learning outcomes (Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, 2019). The teacher's strategy of incorporating stimulating studies and challenges aligns with the Interest Regulation Model, which highlights the importance of diverse and engaging instructional methods in enhancing students' intrinsic motivation and overall learning experience.

Impact of Classroom Environment on Student Engagement

A teacher highlighted as follows:

An inclusive classroom where students feel safe and respected encourages them to engage more in the learning process.

The view of the teacher mentions that an inclusive classroom environment, characterized by a strong sense of safety and mutual respect, significantly enhances student engagement in the learning process. When students perceive their classroom as a space where they are valued and accepted, they are more likely to participate actively and express their thoughts without fear of judgment. This sense of security fosters a positive learning atmosphere where students are motivated to take risks, share ideas, and collaborate with peers. Research indicates that such an environment not only boosts students' confidence but also their willingness to engage with the material being taught, leading to deeper learning and a more enriching educational experience. Inclusivity ensures that all students feel represented and heard, which in turn supports their academic and personal growth.

By prioritizing respect and safety, teachers can create a classroom culture that encourages students to be more involved and invested in their learning journey. A supportive and respectful classroom environment promotes greater student engagement in learning (Smith, 2023). The classroom setting is pivotal in influencing student engagement and motivation. Educators have emphasized the necessity of establishing a welcoming and inclusive atmosphere. Research from teacher interviews, along with policy documents and literature reviews, confirms that the classroom environment is essential for enhancing student engagement and motivation. Teachers have noted that inclusivity and respect are key factors in encouraging active participation and creating a positive learning experience.

Impact on Academic Performance

Regarding impact of motivation and engagement on academic performance, a teacher explained as follows:

Students who are both engaged and motivated are more likely to achieve higher grades and retain information longer.

Research consistently highlights the essential roles of engagement and motivation in academic success. Teachers have observed that students who are actively engaged and motivated tend to achieve better grades and have a stronger retention of information. As one teacher noted, "Students who are both engaged and motivated are more likely to achieve higher grades and retain information longer." This perspective aligns with findings from interviews, policy analyses, and literature reviews, all of which emphasize the critical influence of engagement and motivation on student achievement (Smith, 2023). These insights underline the need to nurture these qualities to enhance educational outcomes.

Fostering Critical Thinking Skills

The significance of engagement and motivation extends to the enhancement of critical thinking abilities. Teachers have observed that students who are actively engaged and motivated are more inclined to participate in discussions, pose questions, and critically evaluate the material. As one teacher remarked

When students are motivated and engaged, they are more likely to delve deeper into the subject matter and develop critical thinking skills.

An analysis of various Nepalese policy documents, such as the Education Act and Regulation, School Education Sector Plan, National Curriculum Framework, National Education Policy, Digital Nepal Framework, School Sector Reform Plan (2009-2015), and School Sector Development Plan, underscores the critical role of engagement and motivation in nurturing critical thinking skills. These documents advocate for creating educational environments that stimulate student interest and active involvement. For instance, both the National Curriculum Framework and the School Education Sector Plan emphasize that engaged and motivated students are more likely to participate in class discussions, ask insightful questions, and critically assess information, thereby strengthening their critical thinking abilities (MoEST, 2019; MoEST, 2020). This highlights the necessity for educational strategies that simultaneously foster engagement and motivation to support holistic intellectual growth.

Long-Term Educational Outcome

Long-term educational outcomes are significantly influenced by student engagement and motivation. Educators emphasize that nurturing these qualities from an early age fosters a lifelong passion for learning. As one teacher mentioned as follows:

Students who are actively engaged and motivated during their early educational experiences are more inclined to pursue higher education and remain committed to learning throughout their lives.

This connection between early motivation and sustained educational achievement highlights the importance of cultivating a positive learning environment from the beginning. Policy documents reviewed suggest that a balanced approach to education, which equally promotes engagement and motivation, is key to optimizing student learning outcomes. The Education Act and related regulations advocate for the development of supportive and stimulating educational environments that address both engagement and motivation. To achieve this, effective educational strategies should focus not only on actively engaging students in the learning process but also on nurturing both their intrinsic and extrinsic motivations, creating a comprehensive approach to education that benefits students long-term.

Insights from interviews with science teachers further underscore the importance of student engagement and motivation in the classroom. These educators identified several critical factors that contribute to fostering these qualities, including strong teacher-student relationships, relevant curricula, effective instructional methods, and clear learning objectives. Research has shown that when students are motivated and engaged, they are more likely to excel academically, leading to better educational outcomes (Ryan & Deci, 2000). In Nepal, the review of key policy documents, such as the National Curriculum Framework and the Digital Nepal Framework, reinforces the idea that both engagement and motivation are essential for improving educational outcomes. Together, they serve as foundational elements in creating an effective and comprehensive learning experience.

Conclusion

In conclusion, student engagement and motivation are essential components of the educational process, each significantly influencing the effectiveness of learning outcomes. This study emphasizes the interconnected nature of these concepts and their collective impact on students' educational experiences. Research indicates that positive teacher-student relationships, relevant curricula, and effective instructional strategies are crucial in enhancing both engagement and motivation. According to Smith (2018), supportive teacher-student interactions create an environment where students feel valued, leading to increased participation and engagement. Furthermore, Jones (2020) highlights that aligning the curriculum with students' interests and experiences fosters intrinsic motivation, encouraging a deeper enthusiasm for learning. The study also underscores the importance of instructional strategies, such as differentiated instruction and clear communication, which empower students to engage meaningfully with the content. Additionally, by offering choice and autonomy, educators can cultivate a sense of ownership among students, promoting sustained motivation. Ultimately, the findings suggest that while some educators view engagement and motivation as equally important, others may prioritize one over the other depending on their teaching context.

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