

Learning Climate

A. Definition: Learning Climate is the tone or atmosphere of the teaching setting (including whether it is stimulating and whether learners can comfortably identify and address their limitations).

B. Educational Purpose of This Category

C. Timing (initial, ongoing)

D. Key Components & Specific Teaching Behaviors:

1. Stimulation

Teaching behaviors:

- Show enthusiasm for topic and for learners
- Show interest through body language
- Use animated voice
- Provide conducive physical environment
- Counteract natural decrement in attention

2. Learner Involvement

Teaching behaviors:

- Look at learners
- Listen to learners
- Encourage learners to participate
- Avoid monopolizing discussion

3. Respect & Comfort

Teaching behaviors:

- Use learners' names
- Acknowledge problems/situation faced by learners
- Invite learners to express opinions
- State respect for divergent opinions
- Avoid ridicule, intimidation or interruption

4. Admission of Limitations

Teaching behaviors:

- Admit own errors or limitations
- Avoid being dogmatic
- Acknowledge limitations in learners
- Invite learners to bring up limitations
- Acknowledge limitations in content of medicine
- Acknowledge limitations in context of medical education