

EDGE Tips for Guiding a Skill

1. Be able to perform the skill well yourself.
2. Review your own experience in learning it, and work out a series of steps for teaching it. (Use EDGE).
3. Keep the coaching on a personal basis by working with small groups of learners or perhaps only one to start with. Get additional coaches, if necessary, to keep the groups small.
4. Size up those you are coaching, both as to abilities and personality traits that affect their power to learn this particular skill.
5. If a learner has acquired little or none of the skill through reading, discussions, or some other method, go slowly, especially at the start. Insist on accuracy first, and then speed.
6. Don't interfere with the learner trying to do it on his own. Don't interrupt his efforts unless he bogs down or goes off the wrong track.
7. Let him make mistakes if they will impress on him the right way, but definitely point out mistakes.
8. Never make corrections sarcastically or for the entertainment of others.
9. Encourage the learner by remarks on his progress, pointing out the completion of each step and the steps done well.
10. Urge him to practice and perhaps coach someone else when he has mastered the skill.
11. Be patient!