

In nurses in learning

En enfermeras en el aprendizaje

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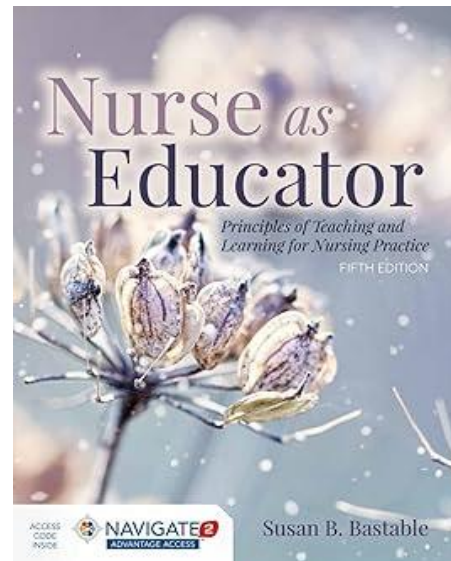
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Introduction

Nurse as Educator: Principles of Teaching and Learning for Nursing Practice by Susan B. Bastable is an essential text for nursing educators, offering both foundational theory and practical applications in nursing education. This book explores the critical relationship between the educator and the learner in the nursing context, making a compelling case for the vital role nurses play not just in clinical practice but also in the education of patients, fellow nurses, and students. The text spans a wide range of topics from learning theories to the practicalities of teaching patients and staff, placing strong emphasis on evidence-based educational practices. Through a detailed exploration of educational methods, Bastable not only provides a blueprint for effective nursing education but also outlines the ethical, developmental, and cultural considerations that must be taken into account to foster learning in a diverse healthcare environment. The book thus serves as a valuable guide for developing competent, compassionate, and adaptive educators who can navigate the complex and ever-evolving demands of the healthcare sector.



This review will provide a critical analysis of the book's key themes, structured into three main sections: the role of the nurse educator, the application of learning theories and teaching models, and the focus on cultural, developmental, and individual learner needs. Finally, the review will synthesize the findings and draw conclusions regarding the impact of the book on nursing education.



Endah Fitriasaki

1. The Role of the Nurse as Educator

Bastable's exploration of the nurse educator's role is one of the key strengths of this book. She asserts that nurses must take on an active role in educating not just patients, but also fellow healthcare providers and nursing students. Traditionally, the nursing profession has been viewed primarily as a clinical discipline, but Bastable broadens this perspective by arguing that teaching is an equally important responsibility for nurses. In this sense, *Nurse as Educator* is both a theoretical and practical guide, establishing that the role of the nurse educator requires specific competencies, commitment, and a continuous effort to engage in reflective practice.

Bastable emphasizes that being a nurse educator is not an innate skill but one that requires intentional development. The book presents a comprehensive view of the skills, knowledge, and dispositions required to excel in this role. It highlights the importance of a learner-centered approach, where the focus shifts from teaching to learning. Bastable encourages educators to adapt their teaching styles to meet the diverse needs of learners. This learner-centric philosophy underpins the book's approach to teaching both students and patients.

The book also delves into the ethical dimensions of nursing education. Given the nature of healthcare, where vulnerable populations are often involved, it is critical that nurse educators follow ethical guidelines. Bastable reinforces the idea that educators must be well-versed in principles like autonomy, justice, beneficence, and nonmaleficence, which guide not only clinical practice but also the educational interactions between the nurse and the learner. By embedding these ethical considerations into their teaching practices, nurse educators ensure that their educational activities are conducted with integrity, respect, and responsibility. Bastable's focus on the ethical, legal, and economic responsibilities of the nurse educator adds depth to the discussion, making the book not just a manual for teaching but also an exploration of the broader context in which nursing education occurs.

Astuti Tuharea

2. The Application of Learning Theories and Teaching Models

A second defining feature of Bastable's work is her comprehensive examination of learning theories and models. Bastable provides an in-depth analysis of various learning theories, such as behaviorism, constructivism, and humanism, and their practical application to nursing education. The importance of understanding these theories cannot be overstated, as they inform the methods and strategies employed by nursing educators to facilitate learning.

Behaviorism, with its focus on observable outcomes and reinforcement, is often applied in teaching specific clinical skills or tasks. Bastable highlights how these techniques are particularly effective in scenarios where repetition and practice are key, such as teaching the correct technique for administering injections. By understanding the principles of behaviorism, educators can design structured learning experiences that reinforce specific behaviors, ensuring mastery of essential clinical skills.

In contrast, Bastable also emphasizes the value of constructivist and humanistic approaches to teaching. Constructivism focuses on the active role of the learner in constructing their own understanding, which aligns with the development of critical thinking skills. In the context of nursing education, this could be achieved through case studies, role-playing, or simulations, where students actively engage in problem-solving tasks that mirror real-life clinical situations. Bastable points out that such strategies help students to make connections between new knowledge and previous experiences, fostering a deeper understanding of the material.

Humanistic learning theory, which emphasizes the importance of personal growth and self-direction, also has significant implications for nursing education. Bastable stresses that nursing education should focus on nurturing the whole person, encouraging students to be reflective practitioners who are not only skilled but also compassionate

and aware of their own values. This holistic approach ensures that nursing students develop not just technical skills but also emotional intelligence and empathy—qualities that are fundamental to providing high-quality patient care.

Bastable also presents instructional design models such as ADDIE (Analysis, Design, Development, Implementation, Evaluation), which help educators create systematic, evidence-based learning experiences. The integration of these models allows nurse educators to plan, implement, and evaluate their teaching methods effectively ensuring that they are aligned with the intended learning outcomes. By systematically approaching the process of teaching, educators can optimize their educational interventions, improve the learner's experience, and contribute to better patient outcomes.

Muhammad Taufan Umasugi

3. Cultural, Developmental, and Individual Learner Needs

One of the most impactful sections of Bastable's work is her exploration of how cultural, developmental, and individual learner differences affect the teaching process. Bastable argues that effective nurse educators must be culturally competent, understanding that cultural background and life experiences significantly influence how individuals learn and interact with healthcare. This understanding is particularly critical when working with patients from diverse backgrounds, as healthcare practices and perceptions of health can vary greatly.

Bastable explores how learners from different cultural groups may have distinct health beliefs and attitudes toward illness and treatment. Recognizing these differences allows the educator to tailor their teaching strategies to be culturally sensitive and appropriate, thereby enhancing the effectiveness of patient education. Bastable provides concrete examples of how nurse educators can incorporate cultural competence into their teaching, whether by using culturally relevant materials or by involving patients and their families in the education process in a manner that respects their cultural values.

Additionally, Bastable emphasizes the importance of recognizing developmental differences in learners. This is particularly relevant in nursing education, where students range from young adults to mature individuals returning to education later in life. Developmental theories, such as those of Erikson and Piaget, provide useful frameworks for understanding how cognitive and emotional development influences learning. By considering the developmental stages of learners, nurse educators can better adapt their teaching strategies to meet the cognitive and emotional needs of their students. For instance, adult learners often bring a wealth of life experiences that can be used to enhance the learning process, while younger students may require more structured guidance.

Bastable also highlights the importance of recognizing individual learner needs, particularly when teaching patients with chronic illnesses or disabilities. She provides practical guidance on how to assess and address the unique challenges these individuals face in learning about their health conditions. Whether it's simplifying medical terminology for patients with low health literacy or adjusting teaching methods for learners with physical or cognitive disabilities, Bastable underscores the need for individualized approaches that respect each learner's needs.

4. Conclusions

In conclusion, *Nurse as Educator: Principles of Teaching and Learning for Nursing Practice* is a comprehensive and insightful resource for nursing educators at all levels. Bastable successfully integrates theoretical principles with practical teaching strategies, providing a rich, evidence-based framework for improving nursing education. The book's strong emphasis on the nurse's role as an educator, the application of diverse learning theories, and the recognition of cultural, developmental, and individual learner needs makes it a unique and valuable text for the nursing profession.

Bastable's approach is not just focused on improving teaching methods but also on enhancing the quality of care delivered through better-educated nurses and informed patients. Her clear focus on ethical, legal, and cultural considerations

ensures that nurse educators are prepared to meet the diverse needs of learners in an ever-changing healthcare environment. This book is essential reading for anyone involved in nursing education, whether in academia, clinical settings, or patient education, and it offers a robust foundation for fostering effective, compassionate, and competent nursing practice.

Ultimately, Bastable's work challenges nursing educators to continuously reflect on and improve their teaching practices, emphasizing the crucial connection between education and high-quality patient care. By focusing on evidence-based practices, cultural competence, and developmental understanding, nurse educators can better support the professional development of nursing students and enhance the learning experiences of patients, ensuring better outcomes for all.

Susan B. Bastable, EdD, MEd, RN; Nurse as Educator: Principles of Teaching and Learning for Nursing Practice. 5th Edition Burlington, MA Jones & Bartlett Learning 2019. (Health Professions Education) 656 pages Price: \$146.95, ISBN: 9781284127249

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