

True or False

With Index Cards

Presented during the 6th Annual Pedagogy Day Conference

October 30th, 2015

Purpose

- Structured participation activity that can be used to introduce a topic
- Presents lay notions about topics in psychology
- May be useful for resolving some existing preconceptions that could result in faulty conclusions
- May also be useful in activating relevant schemata about important topics in psychology

Materials Needed

- 1 red flash card per student
- 1 green flash card per student
- Lots of conjectures that are relevant to a topic in psychology



TRUE



FALSE



Example

TRUE or **FALSE**?

Children have different learning styles, depending on whether they are left-brained or right-brained.

FALSE

Why?

There is no evidence of hemispheric preferences of the brain when it comes to learning. At best, we know most people are right handed, which is thought to result from the specialization of motor functions in the left hemisphere of the brain. However, even left handed individuals function better with their non-dominant hand than do right-handed individuals. In terms of learning preferences as a result of brain styles, there is even less clear evidence to suggest it exists.

Skill in one area does not mean that the child should not receive instruction in other areas as well.

Summary of TRUE or FALSE?

These examples come from myths related to child development, but the activity can be readily used in other disciplines with other examples as well. For more, see

Mercer, J. (2012). *Child development: Myths and Misunderstandings*. SAGE Publications.

For other myths about popular psychology, consider reading

Sitzman, D. M., & Rhodes, M. G. (2011). *50 Great Myths of Popular Psychology*. *Inquiry: Critical Thinking Across the Disciplines*, 26(2), 51-54.

FALSE

TRUE

