Article Analysis

This article begins by stating facts about education today and what takes place at the beginning of every school year. The parents try a new, strict schedule they believe will help the student be more productive and affective with the school activities. Teachers also try a new strategy that they hope will allow more students to gain more knowledge throughout the year. Also, schools have new philosophies and rules to guide the students and make the year more productive than the prior school year. The problem is no one truly knows what the outcome will be after making these many changes.

The author gives two tips, or strategies, to allow students to benefit more from studying. The first tip is to move around to different locations while studying because this is known to improve retention. The author goes on to explain how the brain works in great detail in order to give support for this first tip offered to the reader. Moving to different locations forces the brain to “make multiple associations with the same material.” The second suggestion is actually for the teachers. Many educators stand in front of the classroom at a whiteboard and expect students to retain all the information that he or she lectures and gives notes on. The author’s tip is for the teacher to move around the classroom rather than stay in one place.

I personally think this article gives great advice to both teachers and students. I agree with the author about both of the suggestions made. For the students, I believe that moving to different locations to study not only helps retention, but also it can also help the student study longer. Taking little breaks, maybe while moving locations, can help refocus the mind and body. Take five to ten minutes to get something to drink and maybe a snack to slightly boost metabolism and energy. I feel this can help you not get tired too quickly and assist retention. Along with the suggestions for the students, I agree with the tip for the teachers. It is very vital
for the students that the teacher moves around and changes the activity consistently. Children lose focus quickly, and if they are going to learn more, different settings must be applied in the classroom. Whether this is a change to group work, silent reading, or a classroom project, there needs to be a change.

This article is extremely relevant to me as a future educator. It has great tips that I believe should be applied to the student and the teacher. The suggestion to the student can take place in the classroom as well, I believe. The teacher can easily change the setting for the students. Science, for instance, can be talked about in the classroom and be learned through hands-on experiments. An example of this could be a topic on leaves. The teacher can go through the textbook with the students and give some tips by pointing out specific things to look for on different kinds of leaves from different trees. After looking at this information, they can all move outside and search for different leaves on the playground. This is an easy way to give the students energy as well as help them burn some energy. The change of scenery is extremely beneficial and can help the students learn more. This is definitely something I would like to apply to my future classroom.