

BEST QUOTES ON LEARNING

Somewhere, something incredible is waiting to be known.

--Carl Sagan

It is no profit to have learned well, if you neglect to do well.

--Publilius Syrus

I have never met a man so ignorant that I couldn't learn something from him.

--Galileo Galilei

If someone had told me I would be Pope one day, I would have studied harder.

--Pope John Paul I

We Learn:

10% of what we read

20% of what we hear

30% of what we see

50% of what we both see and hear.

and:

70% of what is discussed with others

80% of what we experience personally

90% of what we TEACH someone else.

--William Glasser

When confronted with the fact that he had not memorized the Periodic Table of Elements, Einstein replied, 'I never memorize anything I can look up!'

--Albert Einstein

Learning is not child's play; we cannot learn without pain.

--Aristotle

When you run into something interesting, drop everything else and study it.

—B. F. Skinner

Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn.

—Benjamin Franklin

Having an above average teacher for five years running can completely close the average gap between low-income students and others.

--John Kain and Eric
Hanushek

Why don't they pass a constitutional amendment prohibiting anybody from learning anything? If it works as well as prohibition did, in five years Americans would be the smartest race of people on Earth.

--Will Rogers

He who is afraid to ask is afraid of learning.

--Danish Proverb

A person cannot teach another person directly; a person can only facilitate another's learning.

—Carl Rogers

The major difference between rats and people is that rats learn from experience.

—B. F. Skinner

Play is often talked about as if it were a relief from serious learning. But for children play is serious learning. Play is really the work of childhood.

—Fred Rogers

Limiting kids to learning only in the classroom is like buying a Lamborghini & only driving in the driveway.

--Justin Tarte

Don't practice until you get it right. Practice until you can't get it wrong.

--Unknown

One learns by doing the thing; for though you think you know it, you have no certainty until you try.

--Sophocles

After all of our studies we acquire only that which we put into practice.

--Goethe

Learning is by nature curiosity...prying into everything, reluctant to leave anything, material or immaterial, unexplained.

--Philo

Learn to do a thing so thoroughly that no one can improve upon what has been done.

--Booker T. Washington

The illiterate of the 21st century will not be those who cannot read and write, but those who cannot learn, unlearn and relearn.

--Alvin Toffler

What you discover on your own is always more exciting than what someone else discovers for you—it's like the difference between romantic love and an arranged marriage.

--Terrence Rafferty

Once you have learned how to ask questions—relevant and appropriate and substantial questions—you have learned how to learn and no one can keep you from learning whatever you want or need to know.

--Neil Postman & Charles
Weingartner

The important thing is not so much that every child should be taught, as that every child should be given the wish to learn.

--John Lubbock

Learning is like rowing upstream; not to advance is to drop back.

--Chinese Proverb

In times of change, the learners inherit the earth while the learned find themselves beautifully equipped to deal with a world that no longer exists.

--Eric Hoffer

For the things we have to learn before we can do them, we learn by doing them.

—Aristotle

There is no sin except stupidity.

--Oscar Wilde

Wear your learning, like your watch, in a private pocket; and do not pull it out and strike it, merely to show that you have one. If you are asked what o'clock it is, tell it; but do not proclaim it hourly and unasked, like the watchman.

--Lord Chesterfield

To learn is a natural pleasure.

--Aristotle

Even the whole of life is not sufficient for thorough learning.

--Plautus

What one knows is, in youth, of little moment; they know enough who know how to learn.

--Henry Adams

It is less painful to learn in youth than to be ignorant in age.

--Solon

However much thou art read in theory, if thou hast no practice thou art ignorant.

--Sa'di

If you want to know how to do a thing you must first have a complete desire to do that thing.

--Robert Henri

He who asks a question is a fool for five minutes; he who does not ask a question remains a fool forever.

--Chinese Proverb

Personally I am always ready to learn, although I do not always like being taught.

--Sir Winston Churchill

I have come to feel that the only learning which significantly influences behavior is self-discovered, self-appropriated learning.

--Carl R. Rogers

Give the pupils something to do, not something to learn; and the doing is of such a nature as to demand thinking; learning naturally results.

—John Dewey

There is nothing mysterious about true learning. It takes place all the time, but, like all creative processes, it is more likely to be in the form of spontaneous combustion than to be the response to methodical coercion.

--Mary H. B. Wollner

The universe is full of magical things patiently waiting for our wits to grow sharper.

--Eden Phillpotts

The real, uncoerced zest for learning goes out of education when it is reduced to a routine transmittal of pre-digested information.

--Harold C. Case

Learning is recognized as a life-long process. Even if a genius could learn in school all there is to know about everything, he could be out of school only a short time before the accumulation of new knowledge would make him a back number.

--Philip H. Falk

I don't think much of a man who is not wiser today than he was yesterday.

--Abraham Lincoln

Even though your brain will forget more than 90 per cent of what you learn during your lifetime, it may still store up as much as 10 times more information than there is in the Library of Congress, with its 9 million volumes.

--Lawrence Galton

I believe there are no poor students, only unmotivated students.

--Frederick Mayer

If you would be a real seeker after truth, it is necessary that at least once in your life you doubt, as far as possible, all things.

--Rene Descartes

The important thing is not to stop questioning.

--Albert Einstein

There's only one thing more painful than learning from experience, and that is not learning from experience.

--Laurence J. Peter

The purpose of learning is growth, and our minds, unlike our bodies, can continue growing as we continue to live.

--Mortimer Adler

Genuine ignorance is...profitable because it is likely to be accompanied by humility, curiosity, and open-mindedness; whereas ability to repeat catch-phrases, cant terms, familiar propositions, gives the conceit of learning and coats the mind with varnish waterproof to new ideas.

--John Dewey

Anyone who stops learning is old, whether at twenty or eighty. Anyone who keeps learning stays young. The greatest thing in life is to keep your mind young.

--Henry Ford

My joy in learning is partly that it enables me to teach.

—Seneca

The brighter you are, the more you have to learn.

--Don Herold

We see then how far the monuments of wit and learning are more durable than the monuments of power, or of the hands. For have not the verses of Homer continued twenty-five hundred years or more, without the loss of a syllable or letter; during which time infinite palaces, temples, castles, cities have been decayed and demolished?

--Francis Bacon

A little learning is a dangerous thing;
Drink deep, or taste not the Pierian spring.

--Alexander Pope

To make headway, improve your head.

--B. C. Forbes

Experience is the worst teacher; it gives the test before presenting the lesson.

--Vernon Law

I would live to study, not study to live.

--Francis Bacon

We learn more by looking for the answer to a question and not finding it than we do from learning the answer itself.

—Lloyd Alexander

Every sort of mastery is an increase of one's freedom.

--Henri Frederic Amiel

To have one favourite study and live in it with happy familiarity, and cultivate every portion of it diligently and lovingly, as a small yeoman proprietor cultivates his own land, this, as to study at least, is the most enviable intellectual life.

--Philip G. Hamerton

Better ask ten times than go astray once.

--Yiddish Proverb

He who is afraid of asking is ashamed of learning.

--Danish Proverb

Effective learning means arriving at new power, and the consciousness of new power is one of the most stimulating things in life.

--Janet Erskine Stuart

If you are way ahead with your head you naturally are old-fashioned and regular in your daily life.

--Gertrude Stein

One of the great tragedies of our time is the separation of the two, of the man of intelligence from the people. The whole vocation of the former is to give light to the people; but he will himself seldom find light in any other source.

--William F. Lynch

There is no great concurrence between learning and wisdom.

--Francis Bacon

People in school today can expect a lifetime in which knowledge itself will radically change--not only in its details but its structures; so that the mark of a truly educated man will no longer be how much or even how variously he now knows, but how quickly and how completely he can continually learn.

--Richard Kostelanetz

Chance favors the prepared mind.

--Louis Pasteur

America is full of a violent desire to learn.

--Le Corbusier

Many things are lost for want of asking.

--English Proverb

A sense of curiosity is nature's original school of education.

--Dr. Smiley Blanton

Experience teaches only the teachable.

--Aldous Huxley

I am the master of everything I can explain.

--Theodore Haecker

One of the reasons mature people stop learning is that they become less and less willing to risk failure.

--John W. Gardner

I think one of the reasons programmed instruction was rejected was that it was too powerful. It suggested that the system was teaching rather than that the student was learning.

--B. F. Skinner

Complacency is the enemy of study. We cannot really learn anything until we rid ourselves of complacency.

--Mao Tse-tung

That which any one has been long learning unwillingly, he unlearns with proportionable eagerness and haste.

--William Hazlitt

One by one the solid scholars
Get the degrees, the jobs, the dollars.

--W. D. Snodgrass

Intelligence is not to make no mistakes
But quickly to see how to make them good.

--Bertolt Brecht

I have but one lamp by which my feet are guided, and that is the lamp of experience. I know of no way of judging of the future but by the past.

--Patrick Henry

He who neglects to drink of the spring of experience is likely to die of thirst in the desert of ignorance.

--Ling Po

I keep six honest serving-men
(They taught me all I knew);
Their names are What and Why and When
And How and Where and Who.

--Rudyard Kipling

The things we know best are the things we haven't been taught.

--Vauvenargues

Just as eating against one's will is injurious to health, so study without a liking for it spoils the memory, and it retains nothing it takes in.

--Leonardo da Vinci

What you yourself don't learn
you don't know.

--Bertolt Brecht

As turning the logs will make a dull fire burn, so change of studies a dull brain.

--Longfellow

I have learned throughout my life as a composer chiefly through my mistakes and pursuits of false assumptions, not by my exposure to fountains of wisdom and knowledge.

--Igor Stravinsky

We have all forgot more than we remember.

--Thomas Fuller

We should take care not to make the intellect our god; it has, of course, powerful muscles, but no personality.

--Albert Einstein

Never regard study as a duty, but as the enviable opportunity to learn to know the liberating influence of beauty in the realm of the spirit of your own personal joy and to the profit of the community to which your later work belongs.

--Albert Einstein

In a free world, if it is to remain free, we must maintain, with our lives if need be, but surely by our lives, the opportunity for a man to learn anything.

--J. Robert Oppenheimer

Study, learn, but guard the original naïveté. It has to be within you, as desire for drink is within the drunkard or love is within the lover.

--Henri Matisse

Try as much as possible to be wholly alive, with all our might, and when you laugh, laugh like hell and when you get angry, get good and angry. Try to be alive. You will be dead soon enough.

--William Saroyan

To spend too much Time in Studies, is Sloth; To use them too much for Ornament, is Affectation; To make Judgement wholly by their rules is the humour of a Scholar.

--Francis Bacon

To be proud of learning, is the greatest ignorance.

--Jeremy Taylor

Anyone who can read and who owns a dictionary can become an educated person. Hungry minds always become educated and sharpen their mental and emotional tools as they grow in life through experience.

--Galen Starr Ross

There are more men ennobled by study than by nature.

--Cicero

In youth we learn; in age we understand.

--Marie

Ebner-Eschenbach

I would say to every person read with your pencil. Never pass a word, or an allusion, or a name you do not understand without marking it down for inquiry. Then go to your dictionary for the definition or explanation; go to the encyclopedia for information as to biographical or historical allusions. Never read about any country without having a map before you. This kind of study will fix things in your minds as no formal method of the schools ever will.

--Beecher

Drudgery is as necessary to call out the treasures of the mind, as harrowing and planting those of the earth.

--Margaret Fuller

Culture is the habit of being pleased with the best and knowing why.

--Henry Van Dyke

Observation more than books, experience rather than persons, are the prime educators.

--A. B. Alcott

He who has imagination without learning has wings and no feet.

--Joubert

Learning is the eye of the mind.

--Thomas Draxe

Learning teacheth more in one year than experience in twenty.

--Roger Ascham

As a field, however fertile, cannot be fruitful without cultivation, neither can a mind without learning.

--Cicero

A single day among the learned lasts longer than the longest life of the ignorant.

--Posidonius

The love of learning and the love of money rarely meet.

--George Herbert

Learning can be defined as a process of progressive change from ignorance to knowledge, and from indifference to understanding.

—Robert John Meehan

Instruction enlarges the natural powers of the mind.

—Horace

Creative activity could be described as a type of learning process where teacher and pupil are located in the same individual.

—Arthur Koestler

Learning to learn is to know how to navigate in a forest of facts, ideas and theories, a proliferation of constantly changing items of knowledge. Learning to learn is to know what to ignore but at the same time not rejecting innovation and research.

--Raymond Queneau

Learning is acquiring knowledge.

--Greek Proverb

I delight in learning so that I can teach.

--Seneca

Whoso neglects learning in his youth,
Loses the past and is dead for the future.

--Euripides

Educated men are as much superior to uneducated men as the living are to the dead.

--Aristotle

Practice is the best of all instructors.

--Publilius Syrus

A failure in life is one who lives and fails to learn.

--Unknown

Don't be afraid to ask dumb questions. They're easier to handle than dumb mistakes.

--William Wister Hanes

School and education should not be confused; it is only school that can be made easy.

--Emile Capouya

Intellectual passion drives out sensuality.

--Leonardo da Vinci

Shun those studies in which the work that results dies with the worker.

--Leonardo da Vinci

Where there is much desire to learn, there of necessity will be much arguing, much writing, many opinions; for opinion in good men is but knowledge in the making.

--John Milton

You have to study a great deal to know a little.

--Charles de Secondat

Good scholarship is not stodgy; it is the cutting edge of the progress of knowing.

--Herbert S. Bailey

A scholar is a man with this inconvenience, that, when you ask him his opinion of any matter, he must go home and look up his manuscript to know.

--Ralph Waldo Emerson

In truth man is made rather to eat ices than to pore over old texts.

--Anatole France

Tim was so learned that he could name a horse in nine languages: so ignorant that he bought a cow to ride on.

--Benjamin Franklin

Learning is not attained by chance, it must be sought for with ardor and attended to with diligence.

--Abigail Adams

The best university that can be recommended to a man of ideas is the gauntlet of the mobs.

--Ralph Waldo Emerson

Experience is the child of Thought, and Thought is the child of Action. We cannot learn men from books.

--Benjamin Disraeli

In doing we learn.

--George Herbert

We should be careful to get out of an experience only the wisdom that is in it—and stop there; lest we be like the cat that sits down on a hot stove lid. She will never sit down on a hot stove lid again—and that is well; but also she will never sit down on a cold one any more.

--Mark Twain

Order and simplification are the first steps toward the mastery of a subject—the actual enemy is the unknown.

--Thomas Mann

More is experienced in one day in the life of a learned man than in the whole lifetime of an ignorant man.

--Seneca

Learning is acquired by reading books; but the much more necessary learning, the knowledge of the world, is only to be acquired by reading men, and studying all the various editions of them.

--Lord Chesterfield

Men learn while they teach.

--Seneca

The things which hurt, instruct.

--Benjamin Franklin

To talk in public, to think in solitude, to read and to hear, to inquire and answer inquiries, is the business of a scholar.

--Samuel Johnson

It is of primordial importance to learn more every year than the year before. After all, what is education but a process by which a person begins to learn how to learn?

--Peter Ustinov

The world would perish were all men learned.

--Thomas Fuller

It is the vice of scholars to suppose that there is no knowledge in the world but that of books.

--William Hazlitt

The world's great men have not commonly been great scholars, nor its great scholars great men.

--Oliver Wendell
Holmes, Sr.

The mind of the scholar, if you would have it large and liberal, should come in contact with other minds. It is better that his armor should be somewhat bruised by rude encounters even, than hang for ever rusting on the wall.

--Henry Wadsworth
Longfellow

A scholar without diligence is a lover without money.

--Sa'di

A learned man is an idler who kills time with study.

--George Bernard Shaw

This is the great vice of academicism, that it is concerned with ideas rather than with thinking.

--Lionel Trilling

A moment's insight is sometimes worth a life's experience.

--Oliver Wendell
Holmes, Sr.

Perfect understanding will sometimes almost extinguish pleasure.

--A. E. Housman

Nothing can be loved or hated unless it is first known.

--Leonardo da Vinci

They who have read about everything are thought to understand everything, too, but it is not always so; reading furnishes the mind only with materials of knowledge; it is thinking that makes what we read ours. We are of the ruminating kind, and it is not enough to cram ourselves with a great load of collections—we must chew them over again.

—John Locke

If you would thoroughly know anything, teach it to others.

--Tryon Edwards

Learning is wealth to the poor, an honor to the rich, an aid to the young, and a support and comfort to the aged.

—John C. Lavatar

Learning makes a man fit company for himself.

—Thomas Fuller

He is a learned man that understands one subject; a very learned man who understands two.

--Emmons

To be proud of learning, is the greatest ignorance.

--Jeremy Taylor

Judge of a man by his questions rather than by his answers.

--Voltaire

Whatever is good to know is difficult to learn.

--Greek Proverb

He who would learn to fly one day must first learn to stand and walk and run and climb and dance; one cannot fly into flying.

--Friedrich Nietzsche

In all things we learn only from those we love.

--Goethe

Studies are like sandcastles. The less time you invest in them, the easier they wash away. Build something solid!

--Unknown

Responsibility for learning belongs with the student regardless of age.

--Robert Martin

To look is one thing. To see what you look at is another. To understand is still something else. But to act on what you learn is all that really matters.

--Unknown

We have quit learning if we don't feel a little more ignorant every day.

--Unknown

The cure for boredom is curiosity.
There is no cure for curiosity.

--Dorothy Parker

Formula for perpetual ignorance: Be satisfied with your opinions and content with your knowledge.

--Elbert Hubbard

A LEARNER

Each day I learn more than I teach;
I learn that half knowledge of another's life leads to false judgment;
I learn that there is a surprising kinship in human nature;
I learn that it's a wise father who knows his own son;
I learn that what we expect we get;
I learn that there's more good than evil in this world;
That age is a question of spirit;
That youth is the best of life no matter how numerous its years;
I learn how much there is to learn.

--Virginia Church

Anything you can *tell* a learner, anything you can 'teach' to him, will probably turn out to be trivial or harmful; most truly powerful and constructive insights are learned, not taught.

--Harvey Daniels and
Steven Zemelman

Children do not set out to acquire learning as such, but to do things. In the course of doing things, they have need of subject matter; and as a result of manipulating content and materials in doing these things, they learn.

--John Dewey

Learners do not care how much you know until they know how much you care.

--Theodore Roosevelt

Liberty without learning is always in peril, and learning without liberty is always in vain.

--John F. Kennedy

What we learn with pleasure, we never forget.

--Alfred Mercier

All students can learn and succeed, but no on the same day in the same way.

--William G. Spady

To myself I seem to have been only like a boy playing on the seashore, and diverting myself in now and then finding a smoother pebble or a prettier shell than ordinary, whilst the great ocean of truth lay all undiscovered before me.

--Isaac Newton

What we don't need to know for achievement, we need to know for our pleasure. Knowing how things work is the basis of appreciation, and is thus a source of civilized delight.

--William Safire

There is no satiety in study.

--Erasmus

Who learns by Finding Out has sevenfold
The Skill of him who learned by Being Told.

--Arthur Guiterman

All learning has an emotional base.

--Plato

When you stop learning, stop listening, stop looking and asking questions, always new questions, then it is time to die.

--Lillian Smith

I am learning all the time. The tombstone will be my diploma.

--Eartha Kitt

A little learning, indeed, may be a dangerous thing, but the want of learning is a calamity to any people.

--Frederick Douglass

Learning is the knowledge of that which none but the learned know.

--William Hazlitt

If you did not learn your lesson to display it in action, what did you learn it for?

--Epictetus

The brighter you are, the more you have to learn.

--Don Herold

Being ignorant is not so much a shame as being unwilling to learn.

--Benjamin Franklin

Poverty must not be a bar to learning and learning must offer an escape from poverty.

--Lyndon B. Johnson

A Little Learning *misleadeth*, and a great deal often *stupifieth* the Understanding.

--George Savile

Abandon learning, and you will be free from trouble and distress.

--Lao-tzu

In the traditional method the child must say something that he has merely learned. There is all the difference in the world between having something to say, and having to say something.

--John Dewey

Never learn anything until you find that you have been uncomfortable for a long while by not knowing it.

--Samuel Butler

Don't tell me because they're poor, don't tell me that because they live in a certain section, don't tell me because they come from single parents, don't tell me because they're immigrant that they cannot learn.

--Ramon Cortines

You can get help from teachers, but you are going to have to learn a lot by yourself, sitting alone in a room.

--Theodore Geisel

If I plan to learn, I must learn to plan.

--Unknown

The first object of any art of learning, over and beyond the pleasure it may give, is that it should serve us in the future. Learning should not only take us somewhere. It should allow us later to go further more easily.

--Jerome Bruner

The best of all things is to learn. Money can be lost or stolen, health and strength may fail, but what you have committed to your mind is yours forever.

--Louis L'Amour

The brighter you are, the more you have to learn.

--Don Herrold

You don't understand anything until you learn it more than one way.

--Marvin Minsky

I've known countless people who were reservoirs of learning, yet never had a thought.

—Wilson Mizner

A man learns to skate by staggering about making a fool of himself; indeed, he progresses in all things by making a fool of himself.

—George Bernard Shaw

He who adds not to his learning diminishes it.

—*The Talmud*

Men learn while they teach.

—Seneca

The wisest mind has something yet to learn.

—Santayana

Shall I tell you the secret of the true scholar? It is this: Every man I meet is my master in some point, and in that I learn of him.

--Ralph Waldo Emerson

Live to learn and you will learn to live.

--Portuguese Proverb

With knowledge doubling every year or so 'expertise' now has a shelf life measured in days; everyone must be both learner and teacher....Learning or education was a task of childhood in preparation for entering adult life and work. Now learning is literally the work of the majority of U.S. jobs.

--Lewis J. Perelman

Bear in mind that the wonderful things you learn in your schools are the work of many generations, produced by enthusiastic effort and infinite labor of every country in the world. All this is put into your hands as your inheritance in order that you may receive it, honor it, add to it, and one day faithfully hand it on to your children. Thus do we mortals achieve immortality in the permanent things that we create in common. If you always keep that in mind you will find a meaning in life and work and acquire the right attitude toward other nations and ages.

--Albert Einstein

That is what learning is. You suddenly understand something you've never understood all your life, but in a new way.

--Doris Lessing

No profit grows where is no pleasure taken; in brief, sir, study what you most affect.

--William Shakespeare

The true order of learning should be: first, what is necessary; second, what is useful; and third, what is ornamental. To reverse this arrangement is like beginning to build at the top of the edifice.

--Lydia H. Sigourney

It is only by doing things that one learns how to do things.

--E. W. Scripps

Do not be puffed up because of your knowledge nor overconfident because you are a learned person. Take counsel with the ignorant as well as with the wise, for the limits of proficiency cannot be reached and no person is ever fully skilled.

--Egyptian Magistrate
Ptah-Hotep

As turning the logs will make a dull fire burn, so change of studies a dull brain.

--Longfellow

The thirst to know and understand,
A large and liberal discontent;
These are the goods in life's rich hand,
The things that are more excellent.

--Sir William Watson

One ounce of learning requires ten pounds of common sense to apply it.

--Persian Proverb

Through learning we become able to do something we were never able to do...we
reperceive the world and our relationship to it.

--Peter Senge

Learning is not compulsory...neither is survival.

--W. Edwards Deming

You don't need anything else more than the desire to learn, which I call *ganas*.

--Jaime Escalante

If you're illiterate, people can do anything they want to you. . . As you go through
life X-ing documents, unable to defend yourself against forces hostile to you, people
can deprive you of your voting rights through gerrymandering schemes, build a
freeway next your apartment building, or open a retail crack operation on your
block, with people coming and going as though you lived next door to Burger King—
because you're not articulate enough to fight back, because you don't have sense
enough to know what is happening to you, and so you're shoveled under at each
turn in your life; you might as well be dead.

--Ishmael Reed

Through learning we become able to do something we were never able to do...we
reperceive the world and our relationship to it.

--Peter Senge

Learning is what most adults will do for a living in the 21st century.

--S. J. Perelman

The important thing is not to stop questioning.

--Albert Einstein

There is no easy method of learning difficult things. The method is to close the door,
give out that you are not at home, and work.

--Joseph de Maistre

It is a glorious fever, that desire to know.

--Edward Bulwer Lytton

Most men believe that it would benefit them if they could get a little from those who *have* more. How much more would it benefit them if they would learn a little from those who *know* more.

—William J. H. Boetcker

Anyone who stops learning is old, whether this happens at twenty or eighty. Anyone who keeps on learning not only remains young, but becomes constantly more valuable regardless of physical capacity.

—Harvey Ullman

In the conditions of modern life the rule is absolute, the race which does not value trained intelligence is doomed.

—Alfred North
Whitehead

Indiscriminate study bloats the mind.

—D. Sutton

The man who is too old to learn was probably always too old to learn.

—Henry S. Haskins

Have you learn'd lessons only of those who admired you,
and were tender with you, and stood aside for you?
Have you not learn'd great lessons from those who reject
you and brace themselves against you? or who treat you
with contempt, or dispute the passage with you?

—Walt Whitman

I never understand anything until I have written about it.

--Horace Walpole

Learning starts with failure; the first failure is the beginning of education.

--John Hersey

Most of us have learned a good deal more out of school than in it. We have learned from our families, our work, our friends. We have learned from problems resolved and tasks achieved but also from mistakes confronted and illusions unmasked....Some of what we have learned is trivial: some has changed our lives forever.

--Laurent A. Daloz

A dropout is a youngster who will find it hard to earn a living because he refuses to learn a living.

--Unknown

We have two lives—the one we learn with and the life we live after that.

--Bernard Malamud

All learning begins when our comfortable ideas turn out to be inadequate.

—John Dewey

Example has more followers than reason.

—Bovee

F.A.I.L. = First Attempt In Learning.

—A. P. J. Abdul Kalam

He who laughs most, learns best.

—John Cleese

Parental attitudes have greater correlation with pupil achievement than material home circumstances or variations in school and classroom organization, instructional materials, and particular teaching practices.

--*Central Advisory
Council for
Education*

The IQ is often less important in education than the *I Will*.

--Unknown

A scholar is someone who owns more hard-cover books than paperbacks.

--Unknown

A scholar lives to learn, but seldom learns to live.

--Unknown

Learning without thought is useless. Thought without learning is dangerous.

--Confucius

I am convinced that it is of primordial importance to learn more every year than the year before. After all, what is education but a process by which a person begins to learn how to learn?

--Peter Ustinov

There is more to knowing than just being correct.

--Benjamin Huff

Ganas suggests a powerful urge to get ahead, a willingness to sacrifice and to work hard. *Ganas* conquers all. '*Ganas* is All I Need' is a motto I give my students. I tell them that once they have *ganas*, learning is easy.

--Jaime Escalante

Learning is wealth that can't be stolen.

--Philippine Proverb

Few are too young, and none too old, to make the attempt to learn.

--Booker T. Washington

Natural abilities are like natural plants; they need pruning by study.

--Francis Bacon

He who asks a question may be a fool for five minutes; he who never asks a question remains a fool forever.

—Chinese Proverb

Curiosity is the wick in the candle of learning.

--William Willard

Never regard study as a duty, but as the enviable opportunity to learn to know the liberating influence of beauty in the realm of the spirit for your own personal joy and to the profit of the community to which your later work belongs.

--Albert Einstein

No significant learning occurs without a significant relationship.

--James Comer

Learning is always rebellion....Every bit of new truth discovered is revolutionary to what was believed before.

--Margaret Lee Runbeck

Even without success, creative persons find joy in a job well done. Learning for its own sake is rewarding.

--Mihaly
Csikszentmihalyi

Wealth, if you use it, comes to an end; learning, if you use it, increases.

--Swahili Saying

I have learned throughout my life as a composer chiefly through my mistakes and pursuits of false assumptions, not my exposure to founts of wisdom and knowledge.

--Igor Stravinsky

In the world of the future, the new illiterate will be the person who has not learned to learn.

--Alvin Toffler

The beautiful thing about learning is nobody can take it away from you.

--B. B. King

A good stack of examples, as large as possible, is indispensable for a thorough understanding of any concept, and when I want to learn something new, I make it my first job to build one.

--Paul Richard Halmos

The best way to learn is through the powerful force of rhythm.

--Mozart

Learning stamps you with its moments. Childhood's learning is made of moments. It isn't steady. It's a pulse.

--Eudora Welty

Studies serve for delight, for ornament, and for ability.

--Francis Bacon

Learning is the very essence of humility, learning from everything and from everybody. There is no hierarchy in learning.

--J. Krishnamurti

You learn what you want to learn when you need to learn it.

--Bob Schiefer

Almost all youngsters—and apparently oldsters as well—are capable of attaining the same standards within a reasonable period of time. All but a few babies, for instance, learn to walk by the age of two and to talk by the age of three. But no two get there quite the same way, as parents have known for eons.

So too at higher levels. Some children learn best by rote, in structured environments with high certainty and strict discipline. Others thrive in the less-structured permissive atmosphere of a progressive school....Some students need prescribed daily doses of information; others need challenge, the 'broad picture,' and a high degree of responsibility for the design of their own work. But for too long, educators have insisted that there is one best way to teach and learn, even though they have disagreed about what the way is.

--Peter Drucker

We should not only use the brains we have, but all that we can borrow.

--Woodrow Wilson

We teach toward the Einsteins and forget the shopkeepers. Mediocrity is unscholarly and unacademic, even though a small increase in ability across society may be more valuable than a few more people at the peak (who would probably have got there anyway.)

--Edward de Bono

A man only learns in two ways, one by reading, and the other by association with smarter people.

--Will Rogers

Learning should be a joy and full of excitement. It is life's greatest adventure; it is an illustrated excursion into the minds of noble and learned men, not a conducted tour through a jail.

--Taylor Caldwell

The grand schoolmaster is Practice.

--Thomas Carlyle

People seldom improve when they have no other model but themselves to copy after.

--Oliver Goldsmith

If you want people to think, ask them a question.

--Lenay Smith

Get over the idea that only children should spend their time in study. Be a student so long as you still have something to learn, and this will mean all your life.

--Henry Doherty

Genius is entitled to respect only when it promotes the peace and improves the happiness of mankind.

--Lord Essex

You cannot teach a person anything. You can only help him to find it in himself.

--Galileo

Do not weep; do not wax indignant. Understand.

--Baruch Spinoza

Learning is a form of accepting.

--Stella Terrill Mann

Learning without thought is labor lost.

Thought without learning is perilous.

--Confucius

The true delight is in the finding out rather than in the knowing.

--Isaac Asimov

We are generally the better persuaded by the reasons we discover ourselves than by those given to us by others.

--Blaise Pascal

Never expect miracles. It is steady progress that we want, and it will come with industry and patience.

--John Wooden

Interaction is one of the essential ingredients for learning.

--Piaget

To learn is to change. Education is a process that changes the learner.

--George B. Leonard

The beginning place of a child's education is a parent's expectations of a child's ability. A child not expected to learn doesn't learn well.

--Richard Riley

It isn't how much you learn that makes you educated; it's how little you forget.
—Unknown

Education is to get where you can start to learn.
--George Aiken

The only thing that interferes with my learning is my education.
--Albert Einstein

In Rousseau's view (1762)...most of the problems of education are problems of motivation, as teachers try to rush things. They talk of geography before the child knows the way around his own backyard. They teach history before the child understands anything about adult motivation....It would be far better, to let questions arise naturally....When a child is self-motivated, the teacher cannot keep him from learning.
--C. John Sommerville

Intellectual growth should commence at birth and cease only at death.
--Albert Einstein

It's not that I'm so smart, it's just that I stay with problems longer.
--Albert Einstein

The pursuit of truth and beauty is a sphere of activity in which we are permitted to remain children all our lives.
--Albert Einstein

Curiosity is one of the permanent and certain characteristics of a vigorous intellect.
--Samuel Johnson

Students will not work in classes that do not satisfy their needs.
--William Glasser

Learning does not take place in isolation. Students bring to the learning setting what they have experienced and the values they have been taught at home and in their neighborhoods. This affects how they respond.
--*National Center for
Education
Statistics*

Know how to ask. There is nothing more difficult for some people, nor for others, easier.

--Baltasar Gracian

The least of learning is done in the classrooms.

--Thomas Merton

The single most important factor in determining student achievement is not the color of students' skin or where they come from. It's not who their parents are or how much money they have. It's who their teacher is.

--Barack Obama

That's the reason they're called lessons...because they lessen from day to day.

—Lewis Carroll

Connecting play and imagination may be the single most important step in unleashing the new culture of learning.

--John Seely Brown and
Douglas Thomas

The central task of education is to implant a will and a facility for learning; it should produce not learned but learning people. The truly human society is a learning society, where grandparents, parents, and children are students together. In a time of drastic change it is the learners who inherit the future. The learned usually find themselves equipped to live in a world that no longer exists.

--Eric Hoffer

I think, at a child's birth, if a mother could ask a fairy godmother to endow it with the most useful gift, that gift should be curiosity.

—Eleanor Roosevelt

There is no correlation between homework and achievement. According to a 2005 study by the Penn State professors Gerald K. LeTendre and David P. Baker, some of the countries that score higher than the U.S. on testing in the *Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study*—Japan and Denmark, for example—give less homework, while some of those scoring lower, including Thailand and Greece, assign more. Why pile on the homework if it doesn't make even a testable difference, and in fact may be harmful?

--Karl Taro Greenfeld

Unless you try to do something beyond what you have already mastered, you will never grow.

--Ralph Waldo Emerson

Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever.

--Mahatma Gandhi

The debate about homework should not be 'how much?' but 'what kind?' and 'what for?' Using homework merely to cover material there was no time for in class is less helpful, for example, than 'distributed practice': reinforcing and reviewing essential skills. Independent reading is also important. There are many more rare and unique words in even relatively simple texts than in the conversation of college graduates. Reading widely and with stamina is an important way to build verbal proficiency and background knowledge, keys to mature reading comprehension.

--Robert Pondiscio

Everybody is a genius. But if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing that it is stupid.

-- Albert Einstein

Your brain can only absorb what your ass can endure.

--P. Dan Wiwchar

We learn not in the school, but in life.

--Lucius Annaeus Seneca

Nothing in all the world is more dangerous than sincere ignorance and conscientious stupidity.

--Martin Luther King, Jr.

Change is the end result of all true learning.

--Leo Buscaglia

The world of learning is so broad, and the human soul is so limited in power! We reach forth and strain every nerve, but we seize only a bit of the curtain that hides the infinite from us.

--Maria Mitchell

Ignorance breeds fear.

--Mike Wilson

Don't limit a child to your own learning, for he was born in another time.
--Rabindranath Tagore

I cannot think of anything more valuable to ward off old age than being a lifelong learner.
--Barbara Salvione

Example is the school of mankind, and they will learn at no other.
—Edmund Burke

If a child can't learn the way we teach, maybe we should teach the way they learn.
—Ignacio Estrada

I don't believe anybody can really grasp everything that's even in one textbook.
—Joshua Lederberg

Much learning does not teach understanding.
—Heraclitus

A little learning is a dangerous thing, but we must take that risk because a little is as much as our biggest heads can hold.
—George Bernard Shaw

I talk and talk and talk, and I haven't taught people in fifty years what my father taught me by example in one week.
—Mario Cuomo

We have to abandon the idea that schooling is something restricted to youth. How can it be, in a world where half the things a man knows at 20 are no longer true at 40—and half the things he knows at 40 hadn't been discovered when he was 20?
—Arthur C. Clarke

Neither comprehension nor learning can take place in an atmosphere of anxiety.
—Rose Kennedy

The greatest thing a human being ever does in this world is to see something. To see clearly is poetry, prophecy, and religion; all in one.
—John Ruskin

And so I learned, not from those who taught, but from those who talked with me.
—St. Augustine

Time was also (as an infant) I knew no Latin; but this I learned without fear of suffering, by mere observation, amid the caresses of my nursery and jests from friends, smiling and sportively encouraging me. This I learned without any pressure of punishment to urge me on, for my heart urged me to give birth to its conception, which I could only do by learning words not of those who taught but of those who talked with me; in whose care also I gave birth to the thoughts, whatever I conceived. No doubt then, that a free curiosity has more force in our learning these things than a frightful enforcement.

—St. Augustine

We learn what we live, and we learn it to the degree that we live it.

—William Heard
Kilpatrick

Learning needs to be conceived of as something a learner does, not something that is done to a learner.

—Catherine Fosnot

You have to do a lot of listening; you don't just learn out of yourself.

—Ruggiero Ricci

If you are not willing to learn, no one can help you. If you are determined to learn, no one can stop you.

—*Grammarly*

As we acquire more knowledge, things do not become more comprehensible, but more mysterious.

—Albert Schweitzer

I have never in my life learned anything from any man who agreed with me.

—Dudley Field Malone

Expecting all children the same age to learn from the same materials is like expecting all children the same age to wear the same size clothing.

—Madeline Hunter

True scholarship consists in knowing not what things exist, but what they mean; it is not memory but judgment.

—James Russell Lowell

Experience is a hard teacher because she gives the tests first, the lessons afterwards.

—Vernon Suanders Law

How vain is learning unless intelligence go with it.

—Stobaeus

It shouldn't matter how slowly a child learns as long as we are encouraging them not to stop.

—Robert John Meehan

Experience is the hardest kind of teacher. It gives you the test first and the lesson afterward.

—Oscar Wilde

Every adult needs a child to teach; it's the way adults learn.

--Frank Clark

It is the fear of not being able to learn which makes students reject learning. It is our job to give students the light to have confidence in their ability.

—Unknown

We think too much about effective methods of teaching and not enough about effective methods of learning.

—John Carolus

The sweetest path of life leads through the avenues of learning, and whoever can open up the way for another, ought, so far, to be esteemed a benefactor to mankind.

--David Hume

Within even the reluctant student there is a small part that wants desperately to learn. The strength of the desire is determined by someone's belief in him or her.

—Unknown

I was still learning when I taught my last class.

--Claude M. Fuess

Sadly, children's passion for learning often ends when they encounter a world that seeks to educate them for conformity and obedience only.

—Robert John Meehan

The greatest obstacle to growth and development, to learning and to improved function, or even to continued function on the level already reached is discouragement, doubt in one's own ability.

--Russell Dreikurs

Four key beliefs that, when embraced by students, seem to contribute most significantly to their tendency to persevere in the classroom:

1. I belong in this academic community.
2. My ability and competence grow with my effort.
3. I can succeed at this.
4. This work has value for me.

If students hold these beliefs in mind as they are sitting in math class, Farrington [Camille] concludes, they are more likely to persevere through the challenges and failures they encounter there. And if they don't, they are more likely to give up at the first sign of trouble.

—Paul Tough

It is the malady of our age that the young are so busy teaching us that they have no time left to learn.

--Eric Hoffer

There are some things you learn best in calm, and some in storm.

—Willa Cather

The amount of stress on a student is *ridiculous*. Students feel the constant need at our school of having to keep up with all the achievements. We'll do just fine, even though we got a B-minus on that chem test. And no, I won't join the debate team for *you*. We love our moms and we love our dads, *but calm down*.

—Martha Cabot, High School Sophomore

I would like to be a scholar in whatever I do, a scholar is never finished, he is always seeking and I am always seeking.

—Ahmad Jamal

Life is tough, but it's tougher when you're stupid.

—John Wayne

Luthar constructed a profile of elite American adolescents whose self-worth is tied to their achievements and who see themselves as catastrophically flawed if they don't meet the highest standards of success. Because a certain kind of success seems well within reach, they feel they have to attain it at all costs—a phenomenon she refers to as 'I can, therefore I must.' Middle-class kids, she told me, generally do not live with the expectation that they should go to Stanford or earn \$200,000 a year. 'If I've never been to the moon,' she said of middle-class families, 'why would I expect my kids to go there?' The yardstick for the children of the meritocratic elite is different, and it can intimidate as much as it can empower.

—Hanna Rosin citing a
Yale Psychiatry
Department Study
by Suniya Luthar

A piece of you cringes when you hear that your friend has been preparing for the SAT with classes since last summer, and that they're already scoring a 2000. (And what about...the girl taking a summer immersion program to skip ahead and get into AP French her sophomore year? And that internship your best friend has with a Stanford professor?) You can't help but slip into the system of competitive insanity...We are not teenagers. We are lifeless bodies in a system that breeds competition, hatred, and discourages teamwork and genuine learning. We lack sincere passion. We are sick...Why is that not getting through to this community? Why does this insanity that is our school district continue?

—Carolyn Walworth,
High School Junior

Sometimes when learning comes before experience It doesn't make sense right away.

—Richard Bach

Learning is the beginning of wealth. Learning is the beginning of health. Learning is the beginning of spirituality. Searching and learning is where the miracle process all begins.

—Jim Rohn

Play is the highest form of research.

—Albert Einstein

Learning anything new past the age of 30 is an upward climb: Researchers have found that some of your cognitive abilities (in particular, processing speed) begin to decline in your 20s and 30s. In a cruel act of betrayal, the middle-aged brain even turns its singular advantage—our experience—against us. Through a phenomenon known as interference, the expertise we have accumulated can slow further learning. As Sherry L. Willis, a behavioral scientist at the University of Washington, puts it, ‘Your store of knowledge—the number of file drawers you have to go through to retrieve and to get the relevant information and refile the information—increases with age.’ This explains, for example, why switching from a PC to a Mac makes people homicidal: The fact that your brain and fingers remember the old key-command system makes mastering the new one more of a struggle.

—Barbara Bradley
Hagerty

Human curiosity, the urge to know, is a powerful force and is perhaps the best secret weapon of all in the struggle to unravel the workings of the natural world.

—Aaron Klug

He who follows his lessons tastes a profound peace, and looks upon everybody as a bunch of manure.

—Moliere

Character matters. Researches concerned with academic-achievement gaps have begun to study, with increasing interest and enthusiasm, a set of personal qualities—often referred to as noncognitive skills, or character strengths—that include resilience, conscientiousness, optimism, self-control, and grit. These capacities generally aren’t captured by our ubiquitous standardized tests, but they seem to make a big difference in the academic success of children, especially low-income children.

—Paul Tough

I am a toddler. I am not built to sit still, keep my hands to myself, take turns, be patient, stand in line, or keep quiet. I need motion, I need novelty, I need adventure, and I need to engage the world with my whole body. Let me play. (Trust me, I’m learning.)

—Unknown

I don’t divide the world into the weak and the strong, or the successes and the failures...I divide the world into the learners and non-learners.

—Benjamin Barber

Lectures are pedagogically unsound, although for universities looking to trim budgets they are at least cost-effective, with one employee for dozens or hundreds of tuition-paying students. A great way to teach, but a terrible way to learn.

--Stephen M. Kosslyn

Learning becomes relevant when we connect it with reality.

—Robert John Meehan

You do not really understand something unless you can explain it to your grandmother.

—Albert Einstein

Excellence is a better teacher than mediocrity. The lessons of the ordinary are everywhere. Truly profound and original insights are to be found only in studying the exemplary.

—Warren G. Bennis

I am always doing that which I can not do, in order that I may learn how to do it.

—Pablo Picasso

There are no seven wonders of the world in the eyes of a child. There are seven million.

—Walt Streightiff

We learn by example and by direct experience because there are real limits to the adequacy of verbal instruction.

—Malcom Gladwell

The shrewd guess, the fertile hypothesis, the courageous leap to a tentative conclusion: these are the most valuable coin of the thinker at work. But in most schools guessing is heavily penalized and is associated somehow with laziness.

—Jerome S. Bruner

The best learners... often make the worst teachers. They are, in a very real sense, perceptually challenged. They cannot imagine what it must be like to struggle to learn something that comes so naturally to them.

—Stephen Brookfield

Persistent questioning and healthy inquisitiveness are the first requisite for acquiring learning of any kind.

—Gandhi

Children have real understanding only of that which they invent themselves, and each time that we try to teach them too quickly, we keep them from reinventing it themselves.

—Piaget

We should turn out people who love learning so much and learn so well that they will be able to learn whatever needs to be learned.

—John Holt

Many children struggle in schools... because the way they are being taught is incompatible with the way they learn.

—Peter Senge

The only person who is educated is the one who has learned how to learn and change.

— Carl Rogers

If I am walking with two other men, each of them will serve as my teacher. I will pick out the good points of the one and imitate them, and the bad points of the other and correct them in myself.

—Confucius

Experience fails to teach where there is no desire to learn.

—George Bernard Shaw

Teach thy tongue to say 'I do not know' and thou shalt progress.

—Moses Ben Maimon
Maimonides

Bitter are the roots of study, but how sweet their fruit.

—Cato

Spoon feeding in the long run teaches us nothing but the shape of the spoon.

— E. M. Forster

The expert at anything was once a beginner.

—Helen Hayes

Teaching is only demonstrating that it is possible. Learning is making it possible for yourself.

—Paulo Coelho

Writing is not simply a way for students to demonstrate what they know. It is a way to help them understand what they know. At its best, writing is learning.

--*National*

*Commission on
Writing in
America's
Schools and
Colleges 2003*

Discoveries are often made by not following instructions, by going off the main road, by trying the untried.

--Frank Tyger

No man would listen to you talk if he didn't know his turn was next.

--Ed Howe

Most learning is not the result of instruction. It is rather the result of unhampered participation in a meaningful setting.

--Ivan Illich

Perhaps the greatest of all pedagogical fallacies is the notion that a person learns only the particular thing he is studying at the time.

—John Dewey

It is better to know some of the questions than all of the answers.

--James Thurber

That which we persist in doing becomes easier, not that the task itself has become easier, but that our ability to perform it has improved.

—Ralph Waldo Emerson

By seeking and blundering we learn.

--Johann Wolfgang Von
Goethe

Our capacity to command our cognitive and affective processes is heavily influenced by the character of our early lives both at home and school.

--Richard Paul

When a man grows old, he can no more learn much than he can run much.

—Plato

This life's hard, man, but it's harder if you're stupid!

—Steven Keats
in *The
Friends of
Eddie Coyle*

Always walk through life as if you have something new to learn and you will.

—Vernon Howard

Mystery creates wonder and wonder is the basis of man's desire to understand.

—Neil Armstrong

The beginning of education lies in the exploration of the meaning of words.

--Antisthenes

The knowledge of words is the gate to scholarship.

—Woodrow Wilson

You have learned something. That always feels at first as if you had lost something.

—H. G. Wells

Learning is a living experience in open time, a direct human dialogue, ideally structured by a qualified teacher existing within a living, healthy academic culture.

—Dr. David Gleicher

Learning is the beginning of wealth. Learning is the beginning of health. Searching and learning is where the miracle process all begins.

—Jim Rohn

Develop a passion for learning. If you do, you will never cease to grow.

—Anthony D'Angelo

Generally speaking, you aren't learning much when your mouth is moving.

—Steve Johnson

We push our students somewhere between frustrating and challenging ... that's where true learning happens.

—Cynthia Johnson

Thoroughly to teach another is the best way to learn for yourself.

--Tryon Edwards

If the student fails to learn, the teacher fails to teach.

--Sidney Sugarman

When Eric Bonabeau assigned the reading for his class on induction, he barely bothered to tell us what induction was, or how it related to North Atlantic cod. When I asked him afterward about his decision not to spend a session introducing the concept, he said the Web had plenty of tutorials about induction, and any student ought to be able to learn the basics on her own time, in her own way. Seminars are for advanced discussion....Just as learning to read in Latin was essential before books became widely available in other languages, gathering students in places where they could attend lectures in person was once a necessary part of higher education. But by now books are abundant, and so are serviceable online lectures by knowledgeable experts.

--Graeme Wood

No student knows his subject: the most he knows is where and how to find out the things he does not know.

—Woodrow Wilson

James A. Garfield said that a log with a student on one end and Mark Hopkins, his old teacher, on the other end was his ideal college. The point in it all is that personal contact and direct interest in the individual student by an instructor of lofty character is the main thing in any institution of learning.

--F. S. Groner

You can teach a student a lesson for a day; but if you can teach him to learn by creating curiosity, he will continue the learning process as long as he lives.

—Chinese Proverb

There can be no mental development without interest.

—Alfred North
Whitehead

You know that I don't believe that anyone has ever taught anything to anyone. I question that efficacy of teaching. The only thing that I know is that anyone who wants to learn will learn. And maybe a teacher is a facilitator, a person who puts things down and shows people how exciting and wonderful it is and asks them to eat.

—Carl Rogers

The main business of the school is learning. One approach to learning is to view the school and the teacher as the storehouse of all, or most, of those things worth knowing. The basic role of the school in this view is to transmit this knowledge. Another approach to learning is to teach students the process of inquiry, of critical analysis, of experimentation. The first approach stresses the status quo and views the student as a more passive participant. The second approach sees the student as an active participant who will question what he sees, who will be prepared for, and more likely to demand change in the stem.

--Samuel G.
Christie

Over the long term, basic skills only give you the right to compete against the Third World for Third World wages.

--Marc S. Tucker

You may not divide the seamless cloak of learning. There is only one subject-matter for education and that is Life in all its manifestations.

--Alfred North
Whitehead

A person learns significantly only those things which he perceives as being involved in the maintenance of, or enhancement of, the structure of self.

--Carl Rogers

All genuine learning is active, not passive. It involves the use of the mind, not just the memory. It is a process of discovery, in which the student is the main agent, not the teacher.

—Mortimer Adler

Knowledge of the past should not be the goal of education but rather learning to perform in the future tasks of life should be the aim; whether it is maintaining relationships, raising children, cooking for our families, playing a sport or building a house. Not only are increasing abilities to perform in real life the most important outcomes of education but actually engaging in tasks related to these real world challenges is the best way to learn. We don't spend much time learning the history of soccer in order to learn to play – we start playing and learn the rules, strategies and, even its history if we are really smitten by the bug, in the context of learning to play. The same is true of music and many practical skills. The content is rarely the point; content is the by-product of actually learning to perform and then improve our performance.

—Grant Wiggins

Are we forming children who are only capable of learning what is already known? Or should we try to develop creative and innovative minds, capable of discovery from the preschool age on, throughout life?

—Jean Piaget

You learn at your best when you have something you care about and can get pleasure in being engaged in.

—Howard Gardner

Most learning is not the result of instruction. It is rather the result of unhampered participation in a meaningful setting. Most people learn best by being ‘with it,’ yet school makes them identify their personal, cognitive growth with elaborate planning and manipulation.

—Ivan Illich

True education enrolls men at the cradle and graduates them at the grave.

—Unknown

Too much learning, too soon, before the child is ready and dealt out too hard is a 100% guarantee of failure both for the child as he attempts to learn, and for the school which is attempting to teach. Too little learning, too late after the learner is ready for it and needs it, and too lightly presented without depth and emphasis upon its worthwhileness, is a 100% guarantee of producing a whole new generation of mediocre achievers, regardless of their capacities and abilities.

—Genevieve B. Syverson

Students must be actively involved in constructing meaning...Learning must have utility. Often this is accomplished by linking learning to the world outside of school.

--David T. Conley

There is no such thing as learning except (as Dewey tells us) in the continuum of experience. But this continuum cannot survive in the classroom unless there is reality of encounter between the adults and the children. The teachers must be themselves and not play roles. They must teach the children and not teach ‘subjects.’ The child, after all, is avid to acquire what he takes to be the necessities of life, and the teacher must not answer him with mere professionalism and gimmickry. The continuum of experience and reality of encounter are destroyed in the public schools (and most private ones) by the very methods which form the institution itself—the top down organization, the regimentation, the faceless encounters, the empty professionalism, and so on.

—George Dennison

So while I still hate to readjust my thinking, still hate to give up old ways of perceiving and conceptualizing, yet at some deeper level I have, to a considerable degree, come to realize that these painful reorganizations are what is known as learning,

—Carl R. Rogers

If I ran a school, I'd give the average grade to the ones who gave me all the right answers, for being good parrots. I'd give the top grades to those who made a lot of mistakes and told me about them, and then told me what they learned from them.

—Buckminster Fuller

When you make the finding yourself--even if you are the last person on Earth to see the light--you will never forget it.

—Carl Sagan

Learning is not compulsory. Neither is survival.

—Dr. W. Edwards
Deming

Children want to learn to the degree that they are unable to distinguish learning from fun. They keep this attitude until we adults convince them that learning is not fun.

—Glenn Doman

One never learns to understand truly anything but what one loves.

—Goethe

Although a man be able to recite 300 odes, if he knows not how to act, of what use is his learning?

—Confucius

It may be that we should stop putting so much emphasis in our own minds on the monetary value of a college education and put more emphasis on the intangible social and cultural values to be derived from learning. The time may be coming when we will have to start accepting the ideas that education is life, not merely a preparation for it.

—Seymour E. Harris

The man who graduates today and stops learning tomorrow is uneducated the day after.

—Newton D. Baker

The trouble with learning from experience is that you never graduate.

—Doug Larson

As you progress through life, your college grades will become less and less meaningful; your need to learn will ever be with you and your skill in LEARNING HOW TO LEARN will always be important.

—Dr. Arnold O. Beckman

There is nothing worth so much as a mind well instructed.

—*Ecclesiasticus*

Not to know is bad; not to wish to know is worse.

--Nigerian Proverb

Bodily exercise, when compulsory, does no harm to the body; but knowledge which is acquired under compulsion obtains no hold on the mind.

—Plato

What we want is to see the child in pursuit of knowledge, and not knowledge in pursuit of the child.

--George Bernard Shaw

The world of learning is so broad, and the human soul is so limited in power! We reach forth and strain every nerve, but we seize only a bit of the curtain that hides the infinite from us.

--Maria Mitchell

Man's business here is to know for the sake of living, not to live for the sake of knowing.

--Frederic Harrison

Doing your child's homework is a bit like believing that they can get into shape by watching someone else exercise.

--Lawrence Kutner

The brain doesn't need to be motivated to learn any more than the heart needs to be motivated to pump blood.

—Leslie Hart

Who is wise? He that learns from everyone.

--Benjamin Franklin

That is still the case in this country for too many students, the soft bigotry of low expectations. If you don't expect them to learn, if you don't expect them to succeed - then it becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy.

—Tavis Smiley

In my day the principal concerns of university students were sex, smoking dope, rioting and learning. Learning was something you did only when the first three weren't available.

—Bill Bryson

It is never late to earn a degree, masters or doctorate. Learning has no age limit. All age groups are welcome to the act of learning.

—Lailah Gifty Akita

The enemy of learning is knowing.

—Steve Ahn

In school we learn that mistakes are bad, and we are punished for making them. Yet, if you look at the way humans are designed to learn, we learn by making mistakes. We learn to walk by falling down. If we never fell down, we would never walk.

—Robert T. Kiyosaki

Everything I need to know... I learned in kindergarten.

—Robert Fulghum

Every human is a school subject.

—Michael Bassey
Johnson

How many students ... were rendered callous to ideas, and how many lost the impetus to learn because of the way in which learning was experienced by them?

—John Dewey

Every student can learn. Just not on the same day or in the same way.

—George Evans

We need to make education so much fun that students can't help but learn.
—Sebastian Thrun

The doer alone learneth.
—Friedrich Nietzsche

What is learned in high school, or for that matter anywhere at all, depends far less on what is taught than on what one actually experiences in the place.
--Edgar Z. Friedenberg

One of the few ways parents can improve their kids' academic performance—by as much as eight points on a reading or math test—is by getting them placed in the classroom of a teacher with a good reputation....White parents are at least twice as likely as black and Latino parents to request a specific teacher. Given that the best teachers have been shown to raise students' lifetime earnings and to decrease the likelihood of teen pregnancy, this is no small intervention.
--Dana Goldstein

The development of a tree depends on where it is planted.
—Edward Joyner

If you want to earn more, learn more.
—Zig Ziglar

The science of government it is my duty to study, more than all other sciences; the arts of legislation and administration and negotiation ought to take the place of, indeed exclude, in a manner, all other arts. I must study politics and war, that our sons may have liberty to study mathematics and philosophy. Our sons ought to study mathematics and philosophy, geography, natural history and naval architecture, navigation, commerce and agriculture in order to give their children a right to study painting, poetry, music, architecture, statuary, tapestry and porcelain.
—John Adams

He who would learn without a book is like the man who tries to draw water with a sieve.
--Medieval School Poem

If you close your door to the world of books, the gates of the world of ignorance automatically opens and quickly pulls you inside!
—Mehmet Murat ildan

If you are reading in order to become a better reader, you cannot read just any book or article. You will not improve as a reader if all you read are books that are well within your capacity. You must tackle books that are beyond you, or, as we have said, books that are over your head. Only books of that sort will make you stretch your mind. And unless you stretch, you will not learn.

—Mortimer J. Adler

You cannot afford to confine your studies to the classroom. The universe and all of history is your classroom.

—Stella Adler

We must not forget that (children) can learn from Lewis Carroll as well as social studies, that they can learn from Aesop as well as the new math, that the ugly duckling need not be discarded in favor of driver education.

--Madeleine L'Engle

Anybody who can read, can learn.

--Michael Korda

The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go.

--Dr. Seuss

I have no special talent. I am only passionately curious.

—Albert Einstein

When we talk about understanding, surely it takes place only when the mind listens completely—the mind being your heart, your nerves, your ears—when you give your whole attention to it.

--J. Krishnamurti

I remind myself every morning: Nothing I say this day will teach me anything. So if I'm going to learn, I must do it by listening.

—Larry King

I believe I know why it is satisfying to me to hear someone. When I can really hear someone, it puts me in touch with him; it enriches my life. It is through hearing people that I have learned all that I know about individuals, about personality, about interpersonal relationships.

—Carl Rogers

Listening and following directions—vital prerequisites to learning.

—Gladys Andrews
Fleming

Television and the newer electronic media, if used wisely, have great positive potential for learning and development. They give children different mental skills from those developed by reading and writing.

--Patricia M. Greenfield

We now have within our grasp the possibility of making major improvements in the way people—from all economic classes and in all parts of the world—learn. We can transform the learning process, making it more attractive, more efficient and more powerful. We can assure that individuals learn to their full capacity. The key to all this lies in the computer.

--Alfred Bork

In too many schools, computers are used solely for ‘computer literacy,’ the computer equivalent of knowing the mechanics of an automobile rather than knowing how to drive it and where to go. The computer’s real strength is in providing intellectual advantages, in the same way that machines provide mechanical advantages.

--*Business Week*
Magazine

As in the military, technology-based training is now the norm in most corporations, and its promise is extraordinary. It can free teacher and student from much of the drudgery and frustration associated with drill and practice. Free to assign students to imaginative and creative programs, the teacher is also free to manage instruction more creatively. And the student, using modern computers, finds that a machine’s boundless patience, capacity to move at the student’s pace, and memory are enormous advantages.

--*Business Week*
Magazine

Technology that improves learning in the classroom must go from being the last priority to the first priority. Technology should be built into the base budget of the school and of the classroom. The school boards must be told by the superintendents and the principals that technology is something they must have. It should be the same as having a blackboard and chalk. Those are the tools of learning, and technology is now a tool of learning.

--Thomas H. Kean

Society can't afford the money which would be required to deal with this problem by drastically increasing the teacher-to-student ratio, to one-to-three or so. The only alternative, therefore, is to use technology to help teachers maximize the help and supervision which can be given to the independent work and learning of their students.

*--New York State
Business Council*

Computers have not really been integrated into the classroom; they are an adjunct, sometimes a distraction. Often the computers are put into a special lab, where a whole class will go at once to drill on them. Students who especially need the drill may not get any more time on it than their fellows do; on the other hand, students who need more drill may be sent out of the classroom to get it—in which case they may miss classroom instruction....Only in the last few years, and so far only in a relatively limited number of programs implemented in only a relatively small number of schools, have computers begun to be integrated into regular classroom work on regular academic subjects.

*--New York State
Business Council*

Advanced technology is the ideal tool for implementing a new approach to learning which optimizes student time-on-task...increases the quality and quantity of feedback...and paces instruction to student's capabilities. For such an approach to work, the school system must first make the drastic switch from 'teacher-centered, classroom-controlled instruction' to 'learner-centered, performance-paced instruction.'

--Robert K. Branson

We have the technology today to enable virtually anyone who is not severely handicapped to learn anything, at a 'grade A' level, anywhere, anytime.

--Lewis J. Perelman

To gauge the extent to which education has shortchanged the research and development of productive learning technology, consider that the Gillette Company's high-tech 'Sensor' razor blade cost some \$200 million in R & D investment over thirteen years to create. Gillette, a company whose annual revenues of more than \$3.5 billion are less than the education budgets of three-fourths of the U.S. states, thus spent more to invent a better shave than all the states combined spent during the same period to develop a better technology for teaching and learning than the thousand-year-old 'Yak in the Box' (the lecturing classroom professor).

--Lewis J. Perelman

The day may soon come when the concept of student and teacher will be obsolete. All knowledge will be acquired electronically.

—Todd Strasser

Putting a computer in front of a child and expecting it to teach him is like putting a book under his pillow, only more expensive.

--Joseph Weizenbaum

We make a mistake if we just bring a bunch of technology into a room and then think that an excellent educational program is going to materialize. It's not. We need to look at the child and base our decision on how kids learn.

--David Thornberg

With enthusiasm rising for massive open online courses, or MOOCs....the current interest in 'competency-based learning'—liberating students to earn degrees not by amassing credit hours but by preparing for assessments of particular skills at whatever pace and by whichever route they choose—is...something some reformers see as the seeds of a revolution in college education, promising ultra-convenient, self-guided, low-cost courses of study for everyone. The 'beginning of the unbundling of the American university' is how one observer has described the transformation. All it will take for students to avail themselves of this emerging opportunity is a clear sense of where they're headed, lots of self-motivation, and good access to information about what mix of skills is likely to lead to a promising career.

--Ann Hulbert

I would teach children music, physics, and philosophy; but most importantly music, for in the patterns of music and all the arts are the keys of learning.

—Plato

Euclid was hired to tutor King Ptolemy I on the subject of mathematics. The king, frustrated with the complexity of the theorems, asked Euclid if there was an easier way to approach the problems. Euclid admonished the king, 'Sire, there is no royal road to learning.'

--*Personal Selling Power*

Learning is nothing without cultivated manners, but when the two are combined in a woman, you have one of the most exquisite products of civilization.

--André Maurois

I've done a lot of surveys and interacted with a lot of students, and I was shocked to see that at 12 years old, girls are already talking about dumbing themselves down.

—Danica McKellar

The government alone can't teach our kids to learn...children can't achieve unless we raise their expectations and turn off the television sets and eradicate the slander that says a black youth with a book is acting white.

—Barack Obama

Do not expect to arrive at certainty in every subject which you pursue. There are a hundred things wherein we mortals. . . must be content with probability, where our best light and reasoning will reach no farther.

—Isaac Watts

The higher the social class of other students the higher any given student's achievement.

—James S. Coleman

He who enjoys every kind of learning and eagerly studies and hungers for still more knowledge can justly be termed a true philosopher.

—Plato

As long as high schools strive to list the number of Ivy League schools their graduates attend and teachers pile on work without being trained to identify stress-related symptoms, I fear for our children's health. I am not mollified by the alums of my daughter's school who return to tell everyone that the rigor of high school prepared them for college, making their first year easier than they'd anticipated. If they make it that far.

—Candy Schulman

The numbers are stark: One in four U.S. students will witness or experience a traumatic event before the age of 4, and more than two-thirds by age 16. These children do not—the cannot—simply close their eyes to what they've seen or experienced. With each forced eviction, each arrest of an adult in their home, each abuse to their own bodies, an instinctive trigger to 'fight or flee' is pulled over and again. Over time, a child's developing brain is changed by these repeated traumatic experiences. Areas that govern the retention of memory, the regulation of emotion, and the development of language skills are affected. The result is a brain that has structurally adapted for survival under the most stressful circumstances,—but not for success in school.

—Mary Ellen Flannery

The conquest of learning is achieved through the knowledge of languages.

—Roger Bacon

Learn one way; react. Learn many ways; understand.

—Tadeu Dias

Any child who can spend an hour or two a day, or more if he wants, with adults that he likes, who are interested in the world and like to talk about it, will on most days learn far more from their talk than he would learn in a week of school.

—John Holt

The suggestion that the normal human brain has an almost infinite capacity is important: it means that almost everyone is educable. Given enough time and the right opportunities, everyone can learn anything. It is a sad commentary on the training and teaching profession that so many people feel that they are incapable of learning; surely our teaching and instruction is at fault when we reject someone as a failure. How can we say they have not learned when we have used only a small part of the learner's mental capacity. Mea culpa.

—Julie Cotton

I succeeded at math, at least by the usual evaluation criteria: grades. Yet while I might have earned top marks in geometry and algebra, I was merely following memorized rules, plugging in numbers and dutifully crunching out answers by rote, with no real grasp of the significance of what I was doing or its usefulness in solving real-world problems. Worse, I knew the depth of my own ignorance, and I lived in fear that my lack of comprehension would be discovered and I would be exposed as an academic fraud -- psychologists call this 'impostor syndrome.'

—Jennifer Ouellette

Amusement and pleasure ought to be combined with instruction in order to make the subject more interesting. There should be games of various kinds such as a game played with different kinds of coins mixed together. There should also be problems connected with boxing and wrestling matches. These things make a pupil useful to himself and more wide awake.

—Plato

Children are failing to learn not because they lack ability, but because they lack encouragement and support. These are preventable tragedies in thousands of young lives.

—*College Board
Commission on
Pre-College
Guidance and
Counseling*

My mother made me a scientist without ever intending to. Every other Jewish mother in Brooklyn would ask her child after school: So? Did you learn anything today? But not my mother. 'Izzy,' she would say, 'did you ask a good question today?' That difference—asking good questions—made me become a scientist.

--Isidor Isaac Rabi

Do not teach him science: let him discover it. If ever you substitute authority for reason in his mind, he will stop reasoning and become the victim of other people's opinions.

--Jean Jacques Rousseau

In poor and working-class households, children are urged to stay quiet and show deference to adult authority figures such as teachers. In middle-class households, kids learn to ask critical questions and to advocate for themselves—behaviors that serve them well in the classroom.

--Dana Goldstein

Do not believe in anything simply because you have heard it. Do not believe in anything simply because it is spoken and rumored by many. Do not believe in anything simply because it is found written in your religious books. Do not believe in anything merely on the authority of your teachers and elders. Do not believe in traditions because they have been handed down for many generations. But after observation and analysis, when you find that anything agrees with reason and is conducive to the good and benefit of one and all, then accept it and live up to it.

—The Buddha

With change, you learn something. If you do the same thing over and over again, you never learn anything.

--Andrea Bocelli

You're not going to get very far in life based on what you already know. You're going to advance in life by what you're going to learn after you leave here [college].

—Charlie Munger

Nothing fails like success because we don't learn from it. We learn only from failure.

--Kenneth Boulding

Experience is an expensive school, but a fool will learn from no other.

—Japanese Proverb

The goal of assessment for learning is not to eliminate failure, but rather to keep failure from becoming chronic and thus inevitable in the mind of the learner. Duke University basketball coach Mike Krzyzewski has pointed out that the key to winning is to avoid losing twice in a row. He meant that if you lose once and fix it, you can remain confident. Losing twice, though, can raise questions, crack that confidence, and make recovery more difficult. So when learners suffer a failure, we must get them back to success as quickly as possible to restore their confidence in their capabilities. This is the emotional dynamic of assessment for learning.

—Rick Stiggins

In spite of the deep-seated craving for love, almost everything else is considered to be more important than love: success, prestige, money, power—almost all our energy is used for the learning of how to achieve these aims, and almost none to learn the art of loving.

Could it be that only those things are considered worthy of being learned with which one can earn money or prestige, and that love, which ‘only’ profits the soul, but is profitless in the modern sense, is a luxury we have no right to spend energy on?

—Erich Fromm

Do not call for Black power or green power. Call for brain power.

--Barbara Jordan

If you have told a child a thousand times and he still does not understand, then it is not the child who is the slow learner.

—Walter Barbie

There are children of color in special education who have been taken off the express train and put on local. The local never catches up with the express.

—M. Mason

There’s a growing consensus that the most important input toward student achievement is child poverty and all the factors that go along with it. Unless and until we recommit ourselves to ending child poverty and reducing inequality, not just in schools but in families and communities, I don’t see us reinventing ourselves. We can’t put the cart before the horse. We’ve spent too long at this point saying, ‘If we improve schools we’ll erase poverty.’ I think it’s really time to try the other way around.

—Anya Kamenetz

Failure is success if we learn from it.

--Malcolm S. Forbes

Enjoy failure and learn from it. You can never learn from success.

--James Dyson

What are some possible explanations for such extraordinary performance by Asian Americans? Several come readily to mind, but certainly require further exploration:

- Parents who value their children's education so much that they inculcate the centrality of that education in to every aspect of their everyday lives.
- Parents who actively monitor and supplement what the schools teach their children.
- Parents, and therefore children, who believe that academic effort and hard work are rewarded with accomplishment.
- Parents, and therefore students, who support the schools.
- Parents, and therefore students, who believe in taking the most challenging courses in the greatest numbers.

—Daniel B. Taylor

Black people need to work on their speaking and writing skills to avoid the pitfalls of exploitation, exclusion, and economic illiteracy. Knowing the language of power and finance is gaining clout, not selling out.

--Gerrard McClendon

We know that math ability is universal, and interest in math is spread pretty much equally through the population, and we see there are almost no low-income, high-performing math students. So we know that there are many, many students who have the potential for high achievement in math but who have not had opportunity to develop their math minds, simply because they were born to the wrong parents or in the wrong zip code.

—Daniel Zaharopol

What is the most important thing one learns in school? Self-esteem, support, and friendship.

—Terry Tempest
Williams

Teens think listening to music helps them concentrate. It doesn't. It relieves them of the boredom that concentration on homework induces.

—Marilyn vos Savant

We do not learn; and what we call learning is only a process of recollection.

—Plato

The pleasures of learning are indeed pleasures. But in fact the word should be changed. The true name is happiness. There are three other types of happiness, superior to that of learning: the happiness of love fulfilled; the happiness of serving mankind; and the happiness of creation. Though it is beneath these, learning is still a great happiness, and can be a help toward the attainment of those others; and it is an essential part of a complete life. No learner has ever found that he ran short of subjects to explore. But many people who avoided learning, or abandoned it, find that life is drained dry. They spend thirty years in a club chair looking glumly out at the sand and ocean; in a hotel lounge gossiping about the other inmates; in a porch swing awaiting for somebody to drive down the road. But that is not how to live. The chief aim of education is to show you, after you make a livelihood, how to enjoy living; and you can live longest and best and most rewardingly by attaining and preserving the happiness of learning.

--Gilbert Highet

A happy life is one spent in learning, earning and yearning.

--Lillian Gish

In my opinion, the close emotional ties of an all-round good family provide the strongest stimulus to mental development.

--Benjamin Spock

If it is a mistake of the head and not the heart don't worry about it, that's the way we learn.

—Earl Warren

For the unlearned, old age is winter; for the learned, it is the season of the harvest.

--Hasidic Saying

By the time you're eighty years old you've learned everything. You only have to remember it.

--George Burns

I love being over 50. I learn something new every day. And forget 5 others.

—Sue Fitzmaurice

The most important thing I learned in school was how to touch type.

—Joichi Ito

The excitement of learning separates youth from old age. As long as you are learning you're not old.

—Rosalyn S. Yalow

Experts tell us that 90% of all brain development occurs by the age of five. If we don't begin thinking about education in the early years, our children are at risk of falling behind by the time they start Kindergarten.

—Robert. L. Ehrlich

I cannot understate the ability to handle classical texts such as Shakespeare.

—Louise Jameson

I don't read fiction to study the art of fiction, but simply because I like stories. Yet there is a learning process going on. Every book you pick up has its own lesson or lessons, and quite often the bad books have more to teach than the good ones.

—Stephen King

The single biggest predictor of high academic achievement and high ACT scores is reading to children. Not flash cards, not workbooks, not fancy preschools, not blinking toys or computers, but Mom or Dad taking the time every day or night (or both) to sit and read them wonderful books.

—*First Grade Fun Times*

A love of books, of holding a book, turning its pages, looking at its pictures, and living its fascinating stories goes hand-in-hand with a love of learning.

—Laura Bush

Books are hindrances to persisting stupidity.

—Spanish Proverb

Another major problem in education is the passivity of the students. Students spend far too much time sitting in classrooms only half attentive to teacher's talk...They often tune out instruction completely....Research shows again and again that the more students are actively involved in mastering a subject, the more quickly they will learn it....Modern technology can help free students from this cycle of passivity.

--Dr. Terrel Bell

The best students are those who never quite believe their professors.

—Jim Collins

Whoever ceases to be a student has never been a student.

—George Iles

Do question, even the basics!

You will be a fool for once!

If you don't, you will be, for a lifetime..

—Himmilicious

If you think you are worth what you know, you are very wrong. Your knowledge today does not have much value beyond a couple of years. Your value is what you can learn and how easily you can adapt to the changes this profession brings so often.

—Jose M. Aguilar

Knowledge is expanding so rapidly that it is important for today's youth to master modes of learning rather than master accumulations of facts, many of which may be obsolete by the time they finish school.

—Jerome Bruner

We learn from experience that men never learn anything from experience.

—George Bernard Shaw

The conventional view that education pays because students learn—assumes that the typical student acquires, and retains, a lot of knowledge. She doesn't. Teachers often lament summer learning loss: students know less at the end of summer than they did at the beginning. But summer learning loss is only a special case of the problem of fade-out: Human beings have trouble retaining knowledge they rarely use. Of course, some college graduates use what they've learned and thus hold onto it—engineers and other quantitative types, for example, retain a lot of a math. But when we measure what the average college graduate recalls years later, the results are discouraging, to say the least.

In 2003, the United States Department of Education gave about 18,000 Americans the National Assessment of Adult Literacy. The ignorance it revealed is mind-numbing. Fewer than a third of college graduates received a composite score of 'proficient'— and about a fifth were at the 'basic' or 'below basic' level. You could blame the difficulty of the questions—until you read them. Plenty of college graduates couldn't make sense of a table explaining how an employee's annual health insurance costs varied with income and family size, or summarizes the work experience requirements in a job ad, or even use a newspaper schedule to find when a television program ended. Tests of college graduates' knowledge of history, civics, and science have had similar dismal results.

—Bryan Caplan

The most focused study of education's effect on applied reasoning, conducted by Harvard's David Perkins in the mid 1980s, assessed students' oral responses to questions designed to measure informal reasoning, such as 'Would a proposed law in Massachusetts requiring a five-cent deposit on bottles and cans significantly reduce litter?' The benefit of college seemed to be zero: Fourth-year students did no better than first-year students.

—Bryan Caplan

What the small boy needs to know is that there are men in this world who are like him, black men, African-American men, who read and write and find the whole process of academics something valuable....The epidemic of academic failure in the African-American male population is not going to stop unless we, African-American men, begin to do the job that we can do.

--Spencer Holland

It is better to create than to learn! Creating is the essence of life.

—Julius Caesar

To be surprised, to wonder, is to begin to understand.

—Jose Ortega y Gasset

Learning how to learn is life's most important skill.

—Tony Buzan

The deepest sin against the human mind is to believe things without evidence.

--Thomas Henry Huxley

Capitalize on students' existing needs. Students learn best when incentives for learning in a classroom satisfy their own motives for enrolling in the course. Some of the needs your students may bring to the classroom are the need to learn something in order to complete a particular task or activity, the need to seek new experiences, the need to perfect skills, the need to overcome challenges, the need to become competent, the need to succeed and do well, the need to feel involved and to interact with other people. Satisfying such needs is rewarding in itself, and such rewards sustain learning more effectively than do grades. Design assignments, in-class activities, and discussion questions to address these kinds of needs.

—Donelson R. Forsyth
and
James H.
McMillan

Childhood is not a race to see how quickly a child can read, write and count. It is a small window of time to learn and develop at the pace that is right for each individual child. Earlier is not better.

—Magda Gerber

Large skepticism leads to large understanding. Small skepticism leads to small understanding. No skepticism leads to no understanding.

—Xi Zhi

Make students active participants in learning. Students learn by doing, making, writing, designing, creating, solving. Passivity dampens students' motivation and curiosity. Pose questions. Don't tell students something when you can ask them. Encourage students to suggest approaches to a problem or to guess the results of an experiment. Use small group work.

—Ann F. Lucas

Eight characteristics emerge as major contributors to student motivation:

Instructor's enthusiasm

Relevance of the material

Organization of the course

Appropriate difficulty level of the material Active involvement of students

Variety

Rapport between teacher and students

Use of appropriate, concrete, and understandable examples

—Edmund J. Sass

One of the reasons mature people stop learning is that they become less and less willing to risk failure.

—John W. Gardner

No one who cannot rejoice in the discovery of his own mistakes deserves to be called a scholar.

—Donald Foster

There are three kinds of men. The one that learns by reading. The few who learn by observation. The rest of them have to pee on the electric fence to see for themselves.

--Will Rogers

Good judgement comes from experience—and experience? Well, that comes from poor judgement.

—Internet Meme

Study lends a kind of enchantment to all our surroundings.

—Honore de Balzac

Stupid is forever; ignorance can be fixed.

—Don Wood

It is among the commonplaces of education that we often first cut out the living root and then try to replace its natural functions by artificial means. Thus we suppress the child's curiosity and then when he lacks a natural interest in learning he is offered special coaching for his scholastic difficulties.

—Alice Duer Miller

Nobody can decide for himself whether he is going to be a human being. The only question open to him is whether he will be an ignorant undeveloped one or one who has sought to reach the highest point he is capable of attaining.

—Robert Maynard
Hutchins

Toddlers cannot learn when we break the flow of conversations by picking up our cellphones or looking at the text that whizzes by our screens.

—Kathy Hirsh-Pasek

My father was pretty well fixed, and I being the only male son he tried terribly hard to make something out of me. He sent me to about every school in that part of the country. In some of them I would last for three or four months. I got just as far as the fourth reader when the teachers wouldn't seem to be running the school right, and rather than have the school stop I would generally leave.

Then I would start in at another school, tell them I had just finished the third reader and was ready for the fourth. Well, I knew all this fourth grade by heart, so the teacher would remark:

'I never see you studying, yet you seem to know your lessons.' I had that education thing figured down to a fine point. Three years in *McGuffey's Fourth Reader*, and I knew more about it than McGuffey did.

—Will Rogers

I have regretted all my life that I did not at least take a chance on the fifth grade. It would certainly come in handy right now, and I never go through a day that I am not sorry for the idea I had of how to go to school and not learn anything.

—Will Rogers

A man only learns by two things, one his reading and the other is association with smarter people.

—Will Rogers

If you want your children to be intelligent, read them fairy tales. If you want them to be more intelligent, read them more fairy tales.

—Albert Einstein

Learning to read is probably the most difficult and revolutionary thing that happens to the human brain and if you don't believe that, watch an illiterate adult try to do it.

--John Steinbeck

A scholar knows no boredom.

—Jean Paul Friedrich
Richter

Learning became her. She loved the smell of the book from the shelves, the type on the pages, the sense that the world was an infinite but knowable place. Every fact she learned seemed to open another question, and for every question there was another book.

--Robert Goolrick

I think the prime reason for existence, for living in this world, is discovery.

—James Dean

I loathed every day and regret every day I spent in school. I like to be taught to read and write and add and then be left alone.

—Woody Allen

If your child can do advanced math, speak 3 languages, or receive top grades, but can't manage their emotions, practice conflict resolution, or handle stress, none of that other stuff is really going to matter.

—Internet Meme

The best way to become acquainted with a subject is to write about it.

—Benjamin Disraeli

Time is important for learning. There is a direct relationship between achievement and active learning time. Although the time needed for a student to master a concept or skill varies according to the student's rate of learning and other factors, the more time a student spends in active learning, the more that student will learn.

There are three levels of learning time:

Time allocated for instruction (allocated time).

Time actually spent on instruction (instructional time).

Time the student is actively engaged in learning (time on task).

Frequently, time on task is considerably less than allocated time. Therefore, within the framework of allocated time, teachers should plan their classroom activities and homework activities to increase actual instructional time and time on task. Teachers should work to increase academic learning time by creating a system of rules and procedures that facilitate clerical and housekeeping tasks and that deals with disruptions and disciplinary problems. Teachers may also have to allocate extra time through homework, individualized assignments, or other means so their students can master the required subject matter.

—Dan L. Miller

ENTERTAINMENT FIELD TRIPS

All field trips taken during school hours are to be valuable, educational experiences for students, and the field trips are to be directly related to the District #87 curriculum. Field trips for the purpose of student entertainment or reward are not to be taken during school hours. Field trips to locations such as Great America, Enchanted Castle, Disney on Ice, Kane County Cougars, and roller skating parties can be enriching experiences for students, but trips such as these are to be taken only outside of school hours.

The intent of this procedure is to place a premium on valuable academic time and to not reduce the time students spend in academic pursuits in exchange for endeavors that do not promote learning related to the District #87 curriculum.

The only exception to this procedure is the one-day, 8th grade graduation trip, which is usually a visit to the City of Chicago and often includes a boat tour. This trip provides students with a valuable cultural experience and is a fitting activity to culminate their years of elementary education.

—Dan L. Miller

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

At-risk students are often unprepared or unwilling to accept responsibility in school, at home, or in the community. Responsibility may be defined in terms of a student's ability to take initiative and follow through on an assignment. Young people are rarely given true opportunities to take responsibility outside the classroom setting. The involvement of at-risk students in a school or community project can develop a sense of group and individual pride. It can foster self-esteem and responsibility and can serve as an activity that develops a 'family' feeling among classmates. It can also develop an esprit de corps within the class and help make the school experience an enjoyable one. Involvement in a service project will also give students an opportunity to use skills learned in the classroom and put them to practical use. School or community service projects help the at-risk class make a significant contribution to the school or community and also put the students in contact with local adults who have developed the skills necessary to make them successful in their community and who could serve as positive role models for the students. Participating in community or school service projects helps students apply their academic knowledge to real-life situations. Students can also be encouraged to explore and identify changes in their attitudes toward themselves and others. Ideally, they should be placed in a helping relationship with persons who are actually in need of assistance and who will appreciate receiving help.

In setting up community or school service projects, it is important to:

Sell the program to students by describing the need and specify why they should be involved by pointing out what others will gain from their services;

Hold training sessions that will enable students to carry out volunteer work before they begin—e.g., on active listening skills or teaching strategies;

Periodically arrange time throughout the school year for reflection on the volunteer experience; and

Make celebrations of accomplishment an integral part of the community/school service program.

These opportunities can lead to feelings of enhanced competence and self-esteem for student volunteers. Such service experiences can also assist students in making the transition from school to the world of work.

—Dan L. Miller

THE PURPOSE OF GRADES

There are many purposes for using grades in the school program. Grades provide incentives to learn for many students. Most students are motivated to attain the highest grades and to receive the recognition that often accompanies such grades, and they are motivated to avoid the lowest grades and the negative outcomes that sometimes are associated with those grades. Grades also provide information to students for self-evaluation, for analysis of strengths and weaknesses, and for creating a general impression of academic promise, all of which may enter into educational planning. Finally, grades are used to communicate students' performance levels to others who want to know about past achievement or want to forecast future academic success. Teachers in subsequent classes use grades in these ways. The most recognized purpose of grades, however, is to communicate the achievement status of students to their parents. The grade, then, symbolizes the extent to which a student has attained the important instructional goals of the reporting period for which the grade is assigned.

—Dan L. Miller

GRADING ON THE CURVE

The curve referred to in the name of this method is the normal, bell-shaped curve that is often used to describe the achievements of individuals in a large heterogeneous group. The idea behind this method is that the grades in a class should follow a normal distribution, or one nearly like it. Under this assumption, the teacher determines the percentage of students who should be assigned each grade symbol so that the distribution is normal in appearance. For example, the teacher may decide that the percentages of A through F grades in the class should be distributed as follows:

6% of the students will receive an A
22% of the students will receive an B
44% of the students will receive an C
22% of the students will receive an D
6% of the students will receive an F

Grading on the curve is a simple method to use, but it has serious drawbacks. The fixed percentages are nearly always determined arbitrarily, and the percentages do not account for the possibility that some classes are superior and others are inferior relative to the phantom 'typical' group the percentages are intended to represent. Grading on a curve also takes all incentive away from lower-performing students.

They soon realize that their grades have little to do with how well they master course content. They must 'beat' higher-performing students to succeed. No matter how hard they work, their performance will always be evaluated relative to that of higher-performing students.

The use of the normal curve to measure student achievement in a single classroom is simply inappropriate and is not to be used.

—Dan L. Miller

SELF-ESTEEM DEVELOPMENT

At-risk students have established patterns of failure in school. They generally have a low level of self-esteem and very little confidence in their ability to succeed in school. They also often engage in negative social behaviors. Students who have a better understanding of themselves, feel confident in their abilities, and can make decisions that benefit them in a positive way will have a better chance of succeeding in school. Therefore, a part of the At-Risk Program is a component to address family and peers, self-discipline, resolving conflicts, and self-respect. The classroom teacher working collaboratively with the school counselor will carry out a specific self-esteem program. Together they will plan and deliver a program intended to address the self-esteem needs of the at-risk children in the program.

There are few characteristics which will have as significant an impact on whether a student fails or succeeds in school as how the student feels about himself or herself. By helping the at-risk student feel better about himself or herself the teacher can strengthen the child's belief that he or she can succeed, which in turn should lead to better performance in all areas of the child's life, including school. Following are strategies and activities which will facilitate the building of self esteem in children: Plan for success. Put students in situations where success is probable. When it is obvious that a learning goal is too difficult, break the process into a series of smaller, simpler steps.

Take time to meet with the 'at-risk' student on a daily basis to discuss the successes of the day. Discuss why the success took place, how it made him or her feel, and how it could be duplicated.

Provide a classroom environment which is warm and supportive. In such an environment, failure is not feared but considered a part of the learning process.

Accept all students and let them know you care about them. Students will feel important when teachers demonstrate through their actions that they care.

Accentuate the positive. Give students praise when it is earned. Help the student recognize and appreciate accomplishments. Draw attention to the student's strengths and how these strengths are being utilized. Contact parents when the student is doing well.

Have reasonable goals and expectations for achievement within the classroom. Anxiety and frustration are reduced when expectations are clearly stated and are within the reach of the student's ability.

Choose a 'Student of the Week.' Give each child an opportunity to discuss what it is they feel good about. The student may choose to display schoolwork, family photos, creative work, certificates, etc.

Have students keep a journal of 'positive thoughts' that relate to school, their families, outside activities, etc.

Declare an 'I'm Special Day' when students can focus on and explore the attributes that make them unique.

Realize that you will affect your pupils' self concept each and every day. HOW you affect their self concept is your choice.

—Dan L. Miller

SUMMER READING/SUMMER FUN

Educational research has demonstrated that students who engage in no academic pursuits during the summer months actually regress and lose learning. These students then experience a 'catch up' period of time when they return to school in the fall. It is very important, therefore, that students participate in some type of summer reading program during the long layoff from school. All public libraries offer excellent summer reading programs for young people. These programs are fun, they provide incentives for reading and they get young people into the library on a regular basis. Our students in grades 2-8 also have extensive reading lists of books that are best suited to their reading levels. It would be very good for them to continue reading books from their reading lists over the summer by checking books out of the public library.

Whatever parents can do to help students structure their reading over the summer would go a long way toward helping students 'keep up' and avoiding having to 'catch up' once school starts in the fall. Remember, as Mark Twain said, 'The man who does not read good books has no advantage over the man who can't read them.'

—Dan L. Miller

Schools themselves aren't creating the opportunity gap: the gap is already large by the time children enter kindergarten and does not grow as children progress through school. The gaps in cognitive achievement by level of maternal education that we observe at age 18—powerful predictors of who goes to college and who does not—are mostly present at age 6 when children enter school. Schooling plays only a minor role in alleviating or creating test score gaps.

—Robert D. Putnam

Stressful conditions from outside school are much more likely to intrude into the classroom in high poverty schools. Every one of ten stressors is two to three times more common in high poverty schools—Student hunger, unstable housing, lack of medical and dental care, caring for family members, immigration issues, community violence and safety issues.

—Robert D. Putnam

There is no study that is not capable of delighting us, after a little application to it.

—Alexander Pope

When I was a child, I thought grown-ups and teachers knew the truth, because they told me they did. It took years for me to discover that the first step in finding out the truth is to begin unlearning almost everything adults had taught me, and to start doing all the things they'd told me NOT to do. Their main pitch was that achievement equaled happiness, when all you had to do was study rock stars, or movie stars, or them, to see that they were mostly miserable. They were all running around in mazes like everyone else.

—Anne Lamott

Middle school students learn a whole lot better when they are not being lectured to, being directed, forced, or ordered, but when choice is given and learning is interactive. Traditional classrooms in our society today define teacher and the classroom in general as a straight-answer, fact-feeding, dictatorship that cares little for the opinions and interests of the pupils, and that teaches little about the reasons behind the facts. Schools are meant to prepare kids for life and make them more apt to be successful in their life. One would suppose that the government having authority over public schooling would want the generations of the future to be more successful in life, thus feeding the needs of the economy and the requirements of democracy, the spread of freedom, the reduction of discrimination in all forms, and exercising the rights and morality of citizens. One would assume that the government—wanting such a society—would encourage the development of these attributes through schooling. However as we look at the teaching of present schools, we see suspension of constitutional rights, undemocratic classrooms, and the implementation the fact-feeding teaching methods and passive roles for students. Now maybe it's just me, but I would have to think that we should be promoting the opposite of these things. Am I wrong?

—Anonymous 8th Grader
quoted by Nancy
Doda & Trudy
Knowles

The key to being a good teacher is to know the kids. You have to know every single one and have a relationship with every single one. I think that one thing that really allows me to work hard is knowing that my teacher knows where I am in life at that moment. If they don't know me, I will tend not to work as hard for them.

—Anonymous Student
quoted by Nancy
Doda & Trudy
Knowles

Teacher expectations of students play a powerful role in student learning and achievement. In middle schools, it seems clear...that we have yet to dismantle the 'hormones with feet' image of the young adolescent learner. As middle school educators endeavor to advance student learning and achievement and offer equally engaging learning to all young people, they will need to redefine the capacity of this age group, recognizing that puberty does not necessarily place young adolescent learners at intellectual peril.

—Nancy Doda & Trudy
Knowles

Eighth graders need a special form of teaching. We could never learn about a subject by reading a textbook. We need it explained and compared to life. It would help if the learning was fun.

—Anonymous Middle
School Student
quoted by Nancy
Doda & Trudy
Knowles

Like informal peer tutors, friends encourage and help one another on homework and other school projects and activities. In cooperative groups, for instance, students who work with their friends master new learning more readily than students who work with classmates who are not their friends. Friends are a 'unique context' for learning in that they talk to each other more, take more time to work out their differences, and compromise more readily than children who are not friends.

—Willard Hartrup

STUDENTS ASKED MIDDLE GRADES EDUCATORS TO STRIVE TO:

- Know us as people and as learners.
- Respect us as people/learners with important ideas and contributions.
- Understand our developmental nature and associated challenges.
- Know that development does not diminish us.

- Find ways to make the learning engaging.
- Teach us in different ways so we can all learn.
- Listen to us.
- Let us know you.
- Be kind.
- Be honest.
- Be hopeful and encouraging.
- Enjoy us!

— Nancy Doda & Trudy
Knowles

We require them to follow rigid rules and, in schools particularly, we cause children to learn in ways which are the very antithesis of actual learning. We force them to remember and regurgitate large quantities of rote-remembered facts for certain rituals that we call ‘examinations,’ and those who have the highest disgorgitive capacities are considered the most intelligent and the most brilliant and so are the most highly rewarded.

—Ashley Montagu

The true lover of learning then must from his earliest youth, as far as in him lies, desire all truth.

—Plato

When I was eighteen or twenty, I knew everything except what I wanted. I knew all about people, and poetry, and love, and music, and politics, and baseball, and history, and I played pretty good jazz piano. And then I went traveling, because I felt that I might have missed something and it would be a good idea to learn it before I got my master's degree. (...) And the older I grew, and the farther I traveled, the younger I grew and the less I knew. I could feel it happening to me. I could actually walk down a dirty street and feel all my wisdom slipping away from me, all the things I wrote term papers about.

—Peter S. Beagle

When one is young one must see things, gather experience, ideas; enlarge the mind.

—Joseph Conrad

A library is a place where you learn what teachers were afraid to teach you.

—Alan M. Dershowitz

Concerned about achievement? Current research shows that school libraries are key to learning. In the largest study of its kind, Rutgers University professors Ross Todd and Carol Kuhlthau revealed that 99.4% of students ‘indicated that the school library and its services, including roles of school librarians, have helped them...with their learning.’ Data revealed that libraries are dynamic agents of learning and demonstrated the school library’s role ‘as an agent for individualized learning, knowledge construction, and academic achievement.

—Joyce Kasman Valenza

Collaboration is the key to getting the most out of a school library. Teacher-librarians who plan and work closely with other teachers, integrating information skills and strategies with classroom instruction through flexible scheduling and innovative teaching approaches enhance student learning.

—Ken Haycock

What is the value of libraries? Through lifelong learning, libraries can and do change lives, a point that cannot be overstated.

—Michael E. Gorman

The library is the temple of learning, and learning has liberated more people than all the wars in history.

--Carl Rowan

I’m completely library educated. I’ve never been to college. I went down to the library when I was in grade school in Waukegan, and in high school in Los Angeles, and spent long days every summer in the library. I used to steal magazines from a store on Genesee Street, in Waukegan, and read them and then steal them back on the racks again. That way I took the print off with my eyeballs and stayed honest. I didn’t want to be a permanent thief, and I was very careful to wash my hands before I read them. But with the library, it’s like catnip, I suppose: you begin to run in circles because there’s so much to look at and read. And it’s far more fun than going to school, simply because you make up your own list and you don’t have to listen to anyone. When I would see some of the books my kids were forced to bring home and read by some of their teachers, and were graded on—well, what if you don’t like those books?

—Ray Bradbury

We awaken by asking the right questions.

—Suzy Kassem

We learn to do something by doing it. There is no other way.

—John Holt

Play is our brain's favorite way of learning.

—Dianne Ackerman