

How to Make Schools and Colleges into No-Failure EDUCATIONAL Institutions

Agree that our job is to help kids keep on learning with the confidence, curiosity, joy and effectiveness of every infant, rich or poor; i.e. without any active teaching they teach themselves to speak the native tongue, the most difficult thing we'll ever learn; i.e., we NEED to learn!

Learning VOLUNTARILY, in response to stimulation, interests, and some guidance when necessary, is THE issue. Note www.Alternativestoschool.com

Brain development and receptivity is a major issue. Finland, therefore, with the highest test-scores in the world, allows no child into school before age six and does nothing "academic" before seven.

In stable, wealthy, civically-engaged Switzerland, 77% leave school at age 14 to go to work or into a training program.

Most of our educators agree that essentially all problems would be solved if the compulsory attendance law reached only as far as the playground where they could mill around until bored to death and then come voluntarily into class, as we see at some small private schools.

The best high-school in the world, The School of Self-Determination in Moscow, became that way largely by virtue of just one new rule; i.e., you need never ask permission to leave the classroom. But they do other interesting things as well. See [HTTP://734.com1.RU](http://734.com1.RU)

A homeschooling/unschooling resource center, OpenConnections.org, has as her #1 rule that no adult can ever ask a child a question if the adult already knows the answer.

Never lose sight of the fact that what we need in The Real World, as opposed to The Credential World, are the basic curiosity, learning, thinking, communication and cooperating skills we're all BORN to develop. plus reading, writing, basic arithmetic and button-pushing. Complicated is best learned on the job where one can continue to ask, of oneself and others, all the useful/necessary questions. STUFF

Basic skills are important. Practically all mandated/tested subject matter at all levels is happily forgotten unless it's immediately applicable to some practical work. See also--PLTW.org--StartSole.org--MOOC--NHERI.org
SummitLearning.org Goddard College home program--KhanAcademy.org
In many places in Europe, medical school starts at age 18.

Poor minority 4th-graders can, after abolishing all the usual school procedures except for a test, maybe, on the last day, achieve wonderfully when a daily newspaper is the only textbook and InvitationalEducation.net plus choral reading plus cooperative learning is the order of the day

Note that the home/unschooled kids are on top of the heap socially, psychologically, intellectually; and physically; i.e. the major cause of adult orthopedic disease is the elementary school, according to a Canadian study.

Think about abolishing all quizzing and testing prior to licensing exams, using instead InvitationalEducation.net; i.e. show me what you CAN do, and then, maybe, give certificates of demonstrated competence.

Note that colleges love the homeschooled kids. Note the best University in Great Britain where the reward for demonstrated learning by their discussion, questions, argument, and a good paper(s) was to be excused from all exams for the entire four years; i.e. they studied nite + day to avoid testing!

Note that only 4 bright Americans -- Land, Chomsky, Dyson and Oppenheimer have done well in school while over 1/2 of the PhDs were in the bottom 1/2 hi-school class

Above all--encourage them to keep asking questions of self and others.

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