Engaging the Mind for High Intellectual Performance

"Principle of Possibilities" Reuven Feuerstein

PEDAGOGY OF CONFIDENCE
WWW.NUATC.ORG

Yvette Jackson, Ed.D. – National Urban Alliance
Our students Are GIFTED!
Belief!

Yvette Jackson, Ed.D. - National Urban Alliance
The Science of Learning and HIP

\[ L: (U + M) \left( C_1 + C_2 \right) \]
Plasticity, or Neuroplasticity

Structural Cognitive Modifiability:

REUVEN FEUERSTEIN
SCM *PLASTICITY* of the BRAIN

- Brain can be remodeled throughout life
- PLASITICITY of the synapse (where neurons communicate via neurotransmitters) can change.
- LEARNING — entails strengthening connections between the neurons.

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High level activities increase intellectual development. Jean Piaget
Structural Cognitive Modifiability
Reuven Feuerstein

90% **Glia** – transport nutrients, regulate immune system

10% **Neurons** – (dendrites & axons)
Info processing & connect info

- Thicker axon = faster conduction of info
- Building on past info/strengths > thickness > efficiency
ENGAGEMENTS FOR LEARNING
Strengths of Urban Underachievers

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ENGAGEMENTS FOR LEARNING
Strengths of Underachievers

- Social
- Creative
- Resilient
- Analytical
- Problem Solving
- Verbal
- Tech Savvy
- Passionate
- Social
Figure 1 Components of 21st Century Learning

COGNITIVE AGE: Innovation; >Absorbing, Processing and Combining Info
How are their lives narrated in school?
What affects their intellectual development and achievement?
MARGINALIZERS of EDUCATORS

- Minority v. students of color
- Disadvantaged v. school dependent/students put at a disadvantage
- Low achievers v. underachievers
- Disabilities v. variable learners
- Gap v. enrichment and support
LANGUAGE

MEDIUM

MESSAGE
What is our cultural frame of reference?

? IMPACTS US:

RELEVANT + MEANINGFUL

HOW WE SEE THE WORLD/

HOW WE THINK

THE WORLD SEES US

HOW WE CONSTRUCT MEANING/

INFER
what do we know about our students
FRAME OF REFERENCE

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NUA Beliefs: A Summary

- Intelligence is modifiable.
- All students benefit from a focus on high intellectual performance (HIP).
- Learning is influenced by the interaction of culture, language, and cognition.
THE HIGH OPERATIONAL PRACTICE of
the PEDAGOGY of CONFIDENCE

1. Amplifying Student Strengths
2. Building Relationships
3. Nurturing High Intellectual Performances
4. Providing Enrichment Experiences
5. Incorporating Prerequisites for Learning
6. SITUATING LEARNING IN THE LIVES OF STUDENTS

Pedagogy of Confidence™

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Our students Are GIFTED?
MEDIATIVE LEARNING COMMUNITY

TRANSFORMING BELIEFS

TRANSFORM CULTURE

Transform Practice

SCHOOL DEPENDENT STUDENTS:
Strengths & Intellectual Capacity-

HIP

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“When teachers are trained to provide the learning context for using respect of cultural and racial difference as student **STRENGTHS**, they also improve student **SELF WORTH** and **MOTIVATION** as well.”

—Dr. Eric J. Cooper

*President of National Urban Alliance*

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PEDAGOGY OF CONFIDENCE

Ending the Gap: See the potential and not the lack.

Perspectives & Relationships

When you change the way you look at things, the things you look at change!

- Wayne Dyer

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