

INVITATIONS FOR LEARNING

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What Excites the Brain?

- Movement
- Music
- Discovery
- Exploring
- Language
- Choices
- Enjoyment
- Repetition
- Conflict
- Outdoors
- Curiosity

Are Children Learning or Pruning?

Kenneth Horn stated, at a presentation, "That if information provided to children is not Real, Relevant and Hooked to an Emotion it will be pruned from the brain within five minutes" This explains why so much information provided to children is LOST in SPACE. If this is difficult to believe look how often you have made the following commands to children, "Walk", "Use Your Inside Voices", "Be nice to your friends". All of which have been repeated several times during the day.

What worries me is that if children are often exposed to information that is not relevant, will their brains begin to prune automatically, without thought to whether it is important to retain or not?

In fourth grade many schools across the country ask children to memorize the states and the capitols. Many adults, when asked to recite them, do not recall most of them. Why? It wasn't real, relevant and hooked to an emotion at the time it was presented. Yet at the same time if you asked adults to sing the "Mickey Mouse" song most adults know all the words, which they learned before the age of six.

So much information is being "poured" into children's brains earlier and earlier. Information like - shapes, colors, numbers, dates, letters, etc.

Adults must ask are we helping children to learn or prune information?

For more information on workshops contact me at:
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Making it Real, Relevant and Hooked to an Emotion:

- *Observe what children like doing*
- *Provide materials that support what they like doing*
- *Develop curriculum that is based on what children are interested in*
- *Provide lots of “hands-on” experiences*
- *Expand on what children already know*
- *Repeat experiences that children enjoy*
- *Provide choices that are meaningful to them*
- *Support their learning style/s*
- *Provide activities that focus on the process not the product*
- *Provide opportunities that support success*
- *Make it FUN*

Your focus should not be preparing the child for the next year, but how a child feels about their learning now!