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No Parroting Allowed!

Learning Emergence by Asking Questions



"Learning and The Mind Body Connection"

Questions for the Week of June 18, 2007

When asked, "how do you best learn?" most people usually respond with either a technique, like "in a classroom," or by naming their favorite sense, like "I learn best visually." Unfortunately, this implies that most people define "learning" as the ability to parrot the correct answer.

What is wrong with this? "Parroting the correct answer" creates parrots, not students; dullards, not Einsteins. So how can we create more Einsteins? By asking questions **which are intended to provoke the student's own questions**. More important, this turns out to be the best way in which to reawaken in students their lost love of learning.

This week, our topic is "**Learning and the Mind Body Connection.**" Would you like to awaken a love of learning in you about this topic? You can, simply by reading the teacher's questions and then, by asking yourself, "what questions did these words just provoke in me?"

"Learning and the Mind Body Connection"

The Teacher's Questions (asked by Andrew)

- With regard to learning in general, does beginning lessons by "telling" what you will teach harm Body First students?
- Are there academic situations wherein a Body First student ever hope to successfully compete with a Mind First student?
- Do Body First people have an easier time learning to ballroom dance?
- Do Mind First people have a harder time learning to do a sport?
- Are there subjects which Mind First people have an easier time learning?

- Do more Mind First people go on to college? To a masters program? To a doctoral degree?
- Do more Body First people drop out of high school? College?
- Do events in which you actually learn cause simultaneous mind body changes?
- Can learning ever occur only in the mind? Only in the body? Alternately in both?

- In a classroom with both Mind first and Body First students, which teaching style should come first, show or tell?

Sample Student Response Questions (asked by Theodore)

- Is the physiological structure of the brains of Mind First people different from Body First people?
- Do Mind First people make better teachers?
- Do body first people make better athletic coaches?
- When you learn spiritual things, is this more physical learning than mental? In other words, more body learning than mind?
- When you learn higher math, is this learning more mind than body? In other words, more mental than physical?



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Learning and the Mind Body Connection*

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