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Free Range Learning - Laura Weldon

2012-07-23

With more kids at home now . . . here is a book for parents, family members and friends who want to maximize this time for a deeper learning experience for their children and themselves. *Free Range Learning* will encourage and excite those who want their children to reap important benefits from this period of “sheltering in place,” learning at home. This is a book for anyone simply wanting some fresh ideas at this time, or those who wonder if a commitment to ongoing homeschooling might actually result in longer term benefits! The material in this book is backed by scientific and educational studies, along with the testimonies of scores of parents and kids from around the world. The work here

is applicable for young people from pre-school through high school. Studies indicate that adults who were homeschooled are: * More likely to vote, volunteer and be involved in their communities than graduates of conventional schools. * Read more books than average. * More likely to have taken college level courses than the population as a whole. * Tend to be independent and self-reliant. Children are naturally “free range” learners. They build knowledge and skills naturally, within the full spectrum of their daily lives, while observing, exploring and pursuing their interests. This book guides any parent or educator in assisting that process.

The End of the Rainbow - Susan Engel

2015-02-03

Amid the hype of Race to the Top, online experiments such as Khan Academy, and bestselling books like The Sandbox Investment, we seem to have drawn a line that leads from nursery school along a purely economic route, with money as the final stop. But what price do we all pay for the increasingly singular focus on wage as the outcome of education? Susan Engel, a leading psychologist and educator, argues that this economic framework has had a profound impact not only on the way we think about education but also on what happens inside school buildings. The End of the Rainbow asks what would happen if we changed the implicit goal of education and imagines how different things would be if we made happiness, rather than money, the graduation prize. Drawing on psychology, education theory, and a broad range of classroom experiences across the country, Engel offers a fascinating alternative view of what education might become: teaching children to read books for pleasure and self-expansion

and encouraging collaboration. All of these new skills, she argues, would not only cultivate future success in the world of work but also would make society as a whole a better, happier place. Accessible to parents and teachers alike, The End of the Rainbow will be the beginning of a new, more vibrant public conversation about what the future of American education should look like.

Unschooling - Gina Riley 2020-07-20

This book explores the history of the unschooling movement and the forces shaping the trajectory of the movement in current times. As an increasing number of families choose to unschool, it becomes important to further study this philosophical and educational movement. It is also essential to ascribe theory to the movement, to gain greater understanding of its workings as well as to increase the legitimacy of unschooling itself. In this book, Riley provides a useful overview of the unschooling movement, grounding her study in the choices and

challenges facing families as they consider different paths towards educating their children outside of traditional school systems.

Free to Learn - Peter Gray 2015-02-10

"Peter Gray...forces us all to rethink our convictions on how schools should be designed to accommodate the ways that children learn." -- Steven Pinker In Free to Learn, developmental psychologist Peter Gray argues that in order to foster children who will thrive in today's constantly changing world, we must entrust them to steer their own learning and development. Drawing on evidence from anthropology, psychology, and history, he demonstrates that free play is the primary means by which children learn to control their lives, solve problems, get along with peers, and become emotionally resilient. A brave, counterintuitive proposal for freeing our children from the shackles of the curiosity-killing institution we call school, Free to Learn suggests that it's time to stop asking what's wrong with

our children, and start asking what's wrong with the system. It shows how we can act-both as parents and as members of society-to improve children's lives and to promote their happiness and learning.

[There's No Such Thing as Bad Weather](#) - Linda Åkeson McGurk 2017-10-03

Bringing Up Bébé meets Last Child in the Woods in this “fascinating exploration of the importance of the outdoors to childhood development” (Kirkus Reviews) from a Swedish-American mother who sets out to discover if the nature-centric parenting philosophy of her native Scandinavia holds the key to healthier, happier lives for her American children. Could the Scandinavian philosophy of “There’s no such thing as bad weather, only bad clothes” hold the key to happier, healthier lives for American children? When Swedish-born Linda Åkeson McGurk moved to Indiana, she quickly learned that the nature-centric parenting philosophies of her native Scandinavia were not the norm. In

Sweden, children play outdoors year-round, regardless of the weather, and letting babies nap outside in freezing temperatures is common and recommended by physicians. Preschoolers spend their days climbing trees, catching frogs, and learning to compost, and environmental education is a key part of the public-school curriculum. In the US, McGurk found the playgrounds deserted, and preschoolers were getting drilled on academics with little time for free play in nature. And when a swimming outing at a nearby creek ended with a fine from a park officer, McGurk realized that the parenting philosophies of her native country and her adopted homeland were worlds apart. Struggling to decide what was best for her family, McGurk embarked on a six-month journey to Sweden with her two daughters to see how their lives would change in a place where spending time in nature is considered essential to a good childhood. Insightful and lively, *There's No Such Thing as Bad Weather* is a

fascinating personal narrative that illustrates how Scandinavian culture could hold the key to raising healthy, resilient, and confident children in America.

[How to Raise a Wild Child](#) - Scott D. Sampson 2015

The beloved host of PBS Kids' *Dinosaur Train* presents an activity-complemented guide for caregivers and teachers on how to alleviate common childhood challenges by forging strong connections between children and nature. 25,000 first printing.

You, Your Child, and School - Sir Ken Robinson, PhD 2019-03-12

An essential book for parents to help their children get the education they need to live happy, productive lives from The New York Times bestselling author of *The Element* and *Creative Schools* Parents everywhere are deeply concerned about the education of their children, especially now, when education has become a minefield of politics and controversy. One of the

world's most influential educators, Robinson has had countless conversations with parents about the dilemmas they face. As a parent, what should you look for in your children's education? How can you tell if their school is right for them and what can you do if it isn't? In this important new book, he offers clear principles and practical advice on how to support your child through the K-12 education system, or outside it if you choose to homeschool or un-school. Dispelling many myths and tackling critical schooling options and controversies, *You, Your Child, and School* is a key book for parents to learn about the kind of education their children really need and what they can do to make sure they get it.

Home Grown - Ben Hewitt 2014-09-09

The charming story of one family's mission to build a deeper, lasting connection to land and community on their Vermont farm When Ben Hewitt and his wife bought a sprawling acreage of field and forest in northern Vermont, they were eager to start a self-sustaining family farm.

But over the years, the land became so much more than a building site; it became the birthplace of their two sons, the main source of family income and food, and even a classroom for their children. Through self-directed play, exploration, and experimentation on their farm, Hewitt's children learned how to play and read, test boundaries and challenge themselves, fail and recover. Best of all, this environment allowed their personalities to flourish, fueling further growth. In *Home Grown*, Hewitt shows us how small, mindful decisions about day-to-day life can lead to greater awareness of the world in our backyards and beyond. In telling the story of his sons' unconventional education in the fields and forests surrounding his family's farm, he demonstrates that the sparks of learning are all around us, just waiting to be discovered.

Learning is a lifelong process—and the best education is never confined to a classroom.

Natural Born Learners - Beatrice Ekwa Ekoko 2014-01

Humans are natural learners. Many of the authors in this collection of essays begin from a learner-centered, democratic perspective. Complete list of authors include: John Taylor Gatto, Pat Farenga, Satish Kumar, Roland Meighan, Susannah Sheffer, Aaron Falbel, Joseph Chilton Pearce, Gordon Neufeld, Naomi Aldort, Wendy Priesnitz, John. L. Vitale, Jerry Mintz, David Albert, Mary Leue, Grace Llewellyn, Matt Hern, Sandra Dodd, Katharine Houk, Monica Wells Kisura, Brent Cameron, Christine Brabant, Seema Ahluwalia and Carl Boneshirt, Dale Stephens, Kate Cayley, Kate Fridkis, Eli Gerzon, Candra Kennedy, Jessica Claire Barker, Peter Kowalke, Idzie Desmarais, Sean Ritchey, Brenna McBroom, Andrew Gilpin. Divided into three sections, the first part of the book deals with what constitutes a learner-centered approach to education. The second section addresses how some have implemented this approach. In the last section, learners who have lived learner-centred learning share

narratives about their experiences.

Homeschooled Teens - Sue Patterson

2015-04-23

"Are you panicking about homeschooling your teen?" "Do you fear they'll miss the various activities associated with adolescence?" "Maybe you're afraid you'll close doors for them or they won't be well-prepared for adulthood?" "Are you afraid you're going to mess things up or "make them weird?" " Breathe These 75 young people are going to show you exactly what their lives looked like as homeschooled teenagers. And you'll be surprised at how they made friends, got along with family, and explored unique learning environments. They're eager to share the benefits and advantages they experienced through homeschooling. Their lives were (and are) full, rich, and happy. Bring your doubts-reassurance is on its way "There is finally a big enough generation of grown-up homeschooled kids that it is possible to see patterns and grasp the diversity in their experiences. And who

better to tell us about all that than the kids themselves You'll find these young voices are fascinating and absorbing as they open a window for you to get a look into their unconventional lives. A great read. You'll find it hard to put down." Pam Sorooshian, Economics Professor, Homeschooling advocate "A well-organized compilation of answers to questions about homeschooled teens' ways of learning, social lives, family relationships, hobbies, college experiences, careers, and more. I recommend it highly to anyone who is homeschooling, considering homeschooling, or curious about it." Peter Gray, Research Professor of Psychology at Boston College and author of "Free to Learn" "This thoughtful book, full of their opinions, experiences, and honest comments about home-based learning, is proof. You will be reassured, then inspired. And they will provide you with some really great advice... so pay attention " Wendy Presnietz, Editor of "Life Learning Magazine," author of "School Free" and

"Challenging Assumptions in Education." "Apriceless collection of observations and insights A wide range of experiences, interests, and goals...a fascinating look at homeschooling during the teen years." Pam Laricchia, author of the book, "Free to Learn, Free to Live, and Life through the Lens of Unschooling" "A vivid and honest survey about the joys, opportunities, and challenges of homeschooling teenagers. Read this book to learn how you can customize homeschooling to any teenager's advantage." Patrick Farenga, co-author of "Teach Your Own: The John Holt Book of Homeschooling" "A reassuring, helpful, and fantastic resource for anyone involved in homeschooling or interested in this way of educating children. An extraordinary resource " Marty Layne, Homeschooling advocate in Canada and the U.S. and author of "Learning At Home: A Mother's Guide to Homeschooling" and "Can I Do This: Teach My Children at Home?" This book is a gem-superb in many ways. The author's

extensive experience, careful observations, and wise perspective provide a framework for the poignant and perceptive comments of these 75 young people. No better book exists providing a convincing case that homeschoolers engage in deep, meaningful learning and go on to live productive and fulfilling adult lives. Wes Beach, speaker, consultant, and author of "Forging Paths: Beyond Traditional Schooling" and "Self-Directed Learning: Documentation and Life Stories." "Like reading the sequel I never wrote to my own books Anyone who wants to know whether homeschooling-especially unschooling-works should look at the kids, but Sue's approach is even better: she asks the kids. And as we homeschooling parents know well, our kids have plenty to tell us. Mary Griffith, author of "The Homeschooling Handbook" and "The Unschooling Handbook
Mother Nature's Pedagogy - Peter Gray 2020-09 Children come into the world biologically designed to educate themselves. Their natural

curiosity, playfulness, sociability, willfulness, adventurousness, tendency to look ahead, and desire to do well in the world were all shaped, by natural selection, to serve the function of education. In this collection of essays, developmental psychologist Peter Gray describes, with research evidence, how these natural tendencies play themselves out in children who are not schooled but, instead, are allowed ample time and opportunity to exercise their natural educative drives. He explains, especially, how children learn from one another when allowed to play freely in settings where they are not segregated by age. In addition, he presents evidence that children come into the world with prosocial drives-to help, share, and comfort-that grow ever stronger when adults allow them to grow. He also discusses ADHD as a natural and valuable personality variation, not a disorder, which causes problems in the typical school environment but does not interfere with Self-Directed Education.

Psychology - Peter O. Gray 2018-03-05

Peter Gray's evolutionary perspective and emphasis on critical thinking have made his rigorous yet accessible introduction to psychology a widely respected classroom favourite, edition after edition. Now thoroughly revised, with the help of co-author David Bjorklund, Psychology invites and stimulates students to investigate the big ideas in psychological science. Psychology can also be purchased with the breakthrough online resource, LaunchPad, which offers innovative media content, curated and organised for easy assignability. LaunchPad's intuitive interface presents quizzing, flashcards, animations and much more to make learning actively engaging.

Balanced and Barefoot - Angela J. Hanscom
2016-04-22

"Angela Hanscom is a powerful voice for balance." —Richard Louv, author of Last Child in the Woods In this important book, a pediatric occupational therapist and founder of

TimberNook shows how outdoor play and unstructured freedom of movement are vital for children's cognitive development and growth, and offers tons of fun, engaging ways to help ensure that kids grow into healthy, balanced, and resilient adults. Today's kids have adopted sedentary lifestyles filled with television, video games, and computer screens. But more and more, studies show that children need "rough and tumble" outdoor play in order to develop their sensory, motor, and executive functions. Disturbingly, a lack of movement has been shown to lead to a number of health and cognitive difficulties, such as attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), emotion regulation and sensory processing issues, and aggressiveness at school recess break. So, how can you ensure your child is fully engaging their body, mind, and all of their senses? Using the same philosophy that lies at the heart of her popular TimberNook program—that nature is the ultimate sensory experience, and that

psychological and physical health improves for children when they spend time outside on a regular basis—author Angela Hanscom offers several strategies to help your child thrive, even if you live in an urban environment. Today it is rare to find children rolling down hills, climbing trees, or spinning in circles just for fun. We've taken away merry-go-rounds, shortened the length of swings, and done away with teeter-totters to keep children safe. Children have fewer opportunities for unstructured outdoor play than ever before, and recess times at school are shrinking due to demanding educational environments. With this book, you'll discover little things you can do anytime, anywhere to help your kids achieve the movement they need to be happy and healthy in mind, body, and spirit.

Unleashing Her Wild - Kiki Carr 2019-11-12

Unleashing Her Wild is a collection of stories written by women who have found a deep connection to intuition and instinct: an almost

primal feeling that has guided them to overcome incredible challenges with strength and grace. Many of the women share stories of this feeling as a connection to the feminine divine. Psychotherapists, artists, academics, and empowerment practitioners, among many other roles, our authors share their stories of endurance, ferocity, and grace as a testament to what it means to be someone who knows and cultivates our relationship with the power of the feminine energy we all have . . . and let this force shape our lives in ways we might otherwise never imagine.

Project-Based Homeschooling - Lori McWilliam Pickert 2012-06-27

Project-based homeschooling combines children's interests with long-term, deep, complex learning. This is an essential experience for children: to spend time working on something that matters to them, with the support of a dedicated mentor. This book is an introduction and guide to creating the

circumstances under which children can teach themselves. The author gives parents concrete tips for helping children do challenging, meaningful, self-chosen work. From setting up a workspace that encourages independence to building a family culture that supports self-directed learning to concrete suggestions for a step-by-step approach to inquiry-based investigation, Project-Based Homeschooling shares techniques for mentoring independent, confident thinkers and learners.

Psychology - Peter O. Gray 2014-04-30

Peter Gray's evolutionary perspective and emphasis on critical thinking have made his rigorous yet accessible introduction to psychology a widely respected classroom favorite, edition after edition. Now thoroughly revised, with the help of new co-author David Bjorklund, *Psychology, Seventh Edition*, invites and stimulates students to investigate the big ideas in psychological science.

Weapons of Mass Instruction - John Taylor Gatto

2010-04-01

The transformation of schooling from a twelve-year jail sentence to freedom to learn. John Taylor Gatto's *Weapons of Mass Instruction*, now available in paperback, focuses on mechanisms of traditional education which cripple imagination, discourage critical thinking, and create a false view of learning as a byproduct of rote-memorization drills. Gatto's earlier book, *Dumbing Us Down*, introduced the now-famous expression of the title into the common vernacular. *Weapons of Mass Instruction* adds another chilling metaphor to the brief against conventional schooling. Gatto demonstrates that the harm school inflicts is rational and deliberate. The real function of pedagogy, he argues, is to render the common population manageable. To that end, young people must be conditioned to rely upon experts, to remain divided from natural alliances and to accept disconnections from their own lived experiences. They must at all costs be

discouraged from developing self-reliance and independence. Escaping this trap requires a strategy Gatto calls "open source learning" which imposes no artificial divisions between learning and life. Through this alternative approach our children can avoid being indoctrinated-only then can they achieve self-knowledge, good judgment, and courage.

Together - Mona Damluji 2021-11-16

A breathtakingly simple poem of universal experience shows us the transformative power of collective action. "Together offers a vision of the world we want for our children, one in which all living things flourish, our communities thrive, and justice prevails." --Ibram X. Kendi, author of *Antiracist Baby* In *Together*, social justice kids book pioneer Innosanto Nagara teams up with poet and activist Mona Damluji for a stunningly tender and pitch-perfect visual feast that juxtaposes individual action with the power of people acting together. Each of the ten free-verse couplets in the poem is spread across four

pages of imagery, to make a unique and different kind of board book for young kids to discover with their families. The first illustrated book in which Nagara applies his extraordinary visual imagination to words not his own, *Together* is simplicity itself--a poem about the transformational change that happens when people stop acting alone and start doing things together. *Together* is Nagara's third board book, following the immensely popular social justice board books *A is for Activist* and *Counting on Community*.

The End of School - Zachary T. Slayback
2016-05-13

School is a pervasive element in our lives - but one that goes mostly unquestioned. Most discussions get caught up in details of policy reform and leave the idea of school itself alone. *The End of School* changes that. Offering a radical, but even-handed, look at the purpose of education and the reality of school, Slayback develops a manifesto for how young people,

parents, educators, and employers can move beyond school and take control of education. Slayback -- an entrepreneur and Ivy League dropout -- talks about his own disenchantment with school. Despite being an excellent student and loving learning, he became convinced that school was not achieving its end of providing the best education possible. Other students, business partners, intellectuals, and parents convinced him along the way. *The End of School* is a look -- both theoretical and practical -- at how to fix that. Slayback addresses the book to students, educators, parents, and employers of all stripes and ages. Whether you're a high school or college student, a recent graduate, a parent of a young person, a teacher, or an entrepreneur, you'll want to pick up *The End of School*. Some of the topics explored include: - *The Purpose of Education* - *The Purpose of School* - *The Reality of School* - *Different Types of Schooling* - *The Effects of Schooling on Your Future* - *How to Reverse the Negative Effects of*

Schooling - *How to Take Control of Your Education Outside of School* - *How to Succeed Without a College Degree* - *Entrepreneurship vs. School as the Ideal Education* And more!

The Power of Play - David Elkind 2007-12-25 Today's parents often worry that their children will be at a disadvantage if they are not engaged in constant learning, but child development expert David Elkind reassures us that imaginative play goes far to prepare children for academic and social success. Through expert analysis of the research and powerful examples, Elkind shows how creative, spontaneous play fosters healthy mental and social development and sets the stage for academic learning in the first place. An important contribution to the literature about how children learn, *The Power of Play* restores play's respected place in children's lives and encourages parents to trust their instincts to stay away from many of the dubious educational products on the market. *The Harm of Coercive Schooling* - Peter Gray

2020-09

Children, like all human beings, crave freedom, but they are not free in school. Schools operate by methods of coercion (a "request" in school is really an order), enforced with reward, punishment, and threats. Coercion interferes with children's natural, joy-filled and interest-filled ways of learning and turns learning into "work." In this collection of essays, developmental psychologist Peter Gray describes also how schooling promotes bullying, cheating, and showing off; contributes to high rates of anxiety, depression, and even suicide among students; aims to push everyone, regardless of the shape of their personality, through the same square holes; and leads to a lifetime of anxiety dreams. The last two essays show how the harm has moved down even to the youngest students, caused by the misbelief that academic training should start in kindergarten and before. This collection is for everyone who cares about children's wellbeing.

When Kids Rule the School - Jim Rietmulder

2019-05-21

How self-directed democratic schooling builds fulfilling lives and can lead the way back to a civilized society Education is ripe for democratic disruption. Students in most schools are denied fundamental social ideals such as personal freedom, public government, rule of law, and free enterprise. In our increasingly authoritarian post-truth world, self-directed democratic schooling offers a timely alternative: educating children in civilized society and showing that self-motivation outperforms coercion in its power to educate and fulfill. When Kids Rule the School is the first comprehensive guide to democratic schooling, where kids practice life in a self-governed society—empowered as voters, bound by laws, challenged by choice, supported by community, and driven by nature. Through heartwarming stories and hard-headed details, this book covers: Democratic schooling philosophy, theory, and practice School

governance by students and staff together
Student self-direction and day-to-day life Deep
play, cognitive development, and critical
thinking Why democratic schooling is morally
right and effective Model bylaws and guidance
for starting a democratic school. Created for
educators, parents, and scholars, When Kids
Rule the School will immerse you, heart and
mind, in a promising new approach to education,
and stretch your thinking about what school can
be.

Why Are You Still Sending Your Kids to School? -
Blake Boles 2020-05-19

For some kids, school offers a positive and
engaging experience. For others, it's a boring,
stressful, and frustrating waste of time. If your
child is in the second category, why keep
tormenting them? Instead, why not help them
find an educational environment where they feel
genuinely motivated, excited, and empowered?
In this eye-opening book, Blake Boles makes the
case for leaving conventional school and taking

one of the many alternative paths through K-12
that exist today. He addresses parents' major
concerns about unconventional education -- Can
my kids still go to college? Will they still be
employable? How will they learn to work hard? --
while highlighting the hidden benefits of self-
directed learning, such as improved parent-child
relationships, a more balanced decision-making
process regarding college, and a heightened
sense of autonomy and connection. Drawing
upon 15 years of work as a mentor and guide for
adolescents in alternative and experiential
learning environments -- as well as his own
unconventional life path -- Boles weaves
together narrative, theory, and research to build
a powerful argument for granting children
unusual levels of freedom and responsibility.
[Evidence That Self-Directed Education Works](#) -
Peter Gray 2020-09

Theory is one thing; empirical evidence is
another. Is it true that children can educate
themselves well, without coercion or coaxing,

when provided with a supportive environment and plenty of opportunity to play, explore, observe, and socialize? In this collection of essays, developmental psychologist Peter Gray presents evidence from a variety of sources that this indeed is true. One essay points out the amazing amount that little children learn before anyone attempts to teach them in any formal way. Another presents evidence from anthropological research that children in hunter-gatherer cultures educated themselves well, for life in their culture, with no formal instruction. This is followed by an essay summarizing the results of research showing that graduates of the Sudbury Valley School—a school designed for Self-Directed Education—have succeeded very well in higher education, jobs, and life in general. The final seven essays all deal with the results of research, conducted by Peter Gray and Gina Riley, into unschooling families and the lives of adults who grew up unschooled. "Unschooling" here is defined as the variety of

homeschooling in which children are not subjected to an imposed curriculum but are allowed to follow their own interests and thereby educate themselves.

The Future of Smart - Ulcca Joshi Hansen
2021-09-07

Our Education System Is Failing Because It Is Doing Exactly What It Was Designed to Do! Our best efforts at modernizing education have failed to improve the lives of students or change society for the better. This is no accident: the current system is failing us because it ignores our deepest knowledge about how human beings thrive. Being "smart" today is still about sorting kids based on how well they absorb and retain knowledge. We need education to reflect a different set of values: interdependence, community, diversity, and deep, dynamic learning. We need it to align with human development, facilitate learning for different kinds of brains, and prepare young people for a changing society and evolving workplace.

Blending history and science with stories from inside the system, *The Future of Smart* is a must-read for anyone concerned about the future of education. Dr. Hansen explains the disconnect between what we want for our children, and what education today provides. She shows how we can build an education system to nurture the unique, human capabilities of each child, and lay the groundwork for a more equitable, just and humane future.

[Teach Your Own](#) - John Holt 2003-04-17

Today more than one and a half million children are being taught at home by their own parents. In this expanded edition of the book that helped launch the whole movement, Pat Farenga has distilled John Holt's timeless understanding of the ways children come to understand the world and added up-to-the-moment practical advice. Rather than proposing that parents turn their homes into miniature schools, Holt and Farenga demonstrate how ordinary parents can help children grow as social, active learners.

Chapters on living with children, "serious play," children and work, and learning difficulties will be of interest to all parents, whether home schooling or not, as well as to teachers. This new edition is supplemented with financial and legal advice as well as a guide to cooperating with schools and facing the common objections to home schooling. *Teach Your Own* not only has all the vital information necessary to be the bible for parents teaching their own children, it also conveys John Holt's wise and passionate belief in every child's ability to learn from the world that has made his wonderful books into enduring classics.

Unschooling - Kerry McDonald 2019-05-07

Education has become synonymous with schooling, but it doesn't have to be. As schooling becomes increasingly standardized and test driven, occupying more of childhood than ever before, parents and educators are questioning the role of schooling in society. Many are now exploring and creating alternatives. In a

compelling narrative that introduces historical and contemporary research on self-directed education, *Unschooled* also spotlights how a diverse group of individuals and organizations are evolving an old schooling model of education. These innovators challenge the myth that children need to be taught in order to learn. They are parents who saw firsthand how schooling can dull children's natural curiosity and exuberance and others who decided early on to enable their children to learn without school. Educators who left public school classrooms discuss launching self-directed learning centers to allow young people's innate learning instincts to flourish, and entrepreneurs explore their disillusionment with the teach-and-test approach of traditional schooling.

[The Call of the Wild and Free](#) - Ainsley Arment
2019-09-03

Allow your children to experience the adventure, freedom, and wonder of childhood with this practical guide that provides all the information,

inspiration, and advice you need for creating a modern, quality homeschool education. Inspired by the spirit of Henry David Thoreau—"All good things are wild and free"—mother of five Ainsley Arment founded Wild + Free. This growing online community of mothers and families want their children to receive a quality education at home by challenging their intellectual abilities and nurturing their sense of curiosity, joy and awe—the essence of a positive childhood. The homeschool approach of past generations is gone—including the stigma of socially awkward kids, conservative clothes, and a classroom setting replicated in the home. The Wild + Free movement is focused on a love of nature, reading great books, pursuing interests and hobbies, making the entire world a classroom, and prolonging the wonder of childhood, an appealing philosophy that is unpacked in the pages of this book *The Call of the Wild and Free* offers advice, information, and positive encouragement for parents considering

homeschooling, those currently in the trenches looking for inspiration, as well as parents, educators, and caregivers who want supplementary resources to enhance their kids' traditional educations.

[Dumbing Us Down](#) - John Taylor Gatto
2002-02-01

With over 70,000 copies of the first edition in print, this radical treatise on public education has been a New Society Publishers' bestseller for 10 years! Thirty years in New York City's public schools led John Gatto to the sad conclusion that compulsory schooling does little but teach young people to follow orders like cogs in an industrial machine. This second edition describes the wide-spread impact of the book and Gatto's "guerrilla teaching." John Gatto has been a teacher for 30 years and is a recipient of the New York State Teacher of the Year award. His other titles include *A Different Kind of Teacher* (Berkeley Hills Books, 2001) and *The Underground History of American Education*

(Oxford Village Press, 2000).

[School's Over](#) - Jerry Mintz 2017-07-24

In *School's Over: How to Have Freedom & Democracy in Education*, Jerry Mintz outlines the components of successful democratic schools and how these schools change the lives of those involved. He shares memories from his journeys around the globe and conversations with many well-known leaders. Foreword by NY Times bestselling author Sir Ken Robinson

Leadership Step by Step - Joshua Spodek
2017-02-16

Don't be content with simply learning what makes a great leader. Take the time to put in the work building those character traits inside you. Why is it that most of the principles and ideas we are inspired with when we read leadership books rarely end up leaving the page? Because we've learned what successful leaders are doing, as well as why we should be implementing it ourselves, but we have no idea how we can specifically do all this in our unique

circumstances. Leadership Step by Step walks you through what to do and how to do it by taking you through an integrated and comprehensive progression of exercises designed to cultivate key abilities, behaviors, and beliefs through experience. By the end of the 22 exercises in this hands-on book, you will learn to: Build self-awareness Manage emotions Speak in an authentic voice Create meaningful connections Inspire others Each chapter opens with a story demonstrating a vital leadership skill. Then, it guides you through the process of developing that skill for yourself. Leadership Step by Step teaches you how to be that leader you've read so much about!

Instinct - T. D. Jakes 2014-05-06

Tap into your God-given intuition and start achieving ultimate success with this inspiring #1 New York Times bestseller from Bishop T.D. Jakes. If you have ever felt misaligned, this book is for you. If you have lost the rhythm, the passion, or the thrill of living in alignment, then

keep reading. As He did with the very cells that comprise our bodies and the dry bones that were joined together for new life, God has given us deeper instincts to be attracted to those things that fit a higher and better purpose. Never settle for less than God's best for your life. Some people have the courage to move beyond the ordinary, from the methodical mediocre into the revolutionary realization of where they belong. You can have this sense of belonging only when you connect to your core calling. The calling to creativity, the calling to teach, to give, to build, are all part of allowing your instinct to guide you to the "something more" that you suspect is out there. If you are ready to break through the confines of where you are and discover where you are meant to be, then Instinct is your key!!-- EndFragment--

How Children Acquire "Academic" Skills Without Formal Instruction - Peter Gray 2020-09

Children who grow up in a literate and numerate environment do not need to be taught how to

read or how to use numbers to calculate. They pick these skills up in the course of their everyday living. In this collection of essays, developmental psychologist Peter Gray presents the evidence that this is so. He also presents evidence that teaching-especially when it is forced and comes too early-can interfere with children's learning to read and calculate. In addition, in one essay he describes the difference between Self-Directed Education and progressive education, and in another he presents evidence refuting the claim that children lose academic skills during summer vacation from school (the so-called "summer slide"). This book is especially valuable for parents who are thinking of opting out of standard schooling for their children but are concerned about their children's acquisition of academic skills. It is also valuable for educators who are interested in stretching their understanding of how children naturally learn the kinds of skills that schools try to teach.

The 10 Best Ways to Develop Your Killer Instinct - Sammy Franco

UNLEASH YOUR INNER BEAST! The 10 Best Ways to Develop Your Killer Instinct: Powerful Exercises That Will Unleash Your Inner Beast is a unique book also teaches you how to unlock the true power of your mind and unleash this incredible powerful source of power and energy that will help you achieve success in just about any performance situation or activity. A SERIOUS BOOK ANYONE CAN USE! The 10 Best Ways to Develop Your Killer Instinct doesn't pull punches! It's simple and direct. It doesn't bog you down with dry theories, mind-numbing case studies, confusing jargon, or pointless and long-winded anecdotal stories. Instead, it's written in simple, easily understood language, so you can quickly learn and apply the killer instinct skills and achieve personal success. 30+ YEARS OF TRAINING EXPERIENCE AT YOUR FINGERTIPS The 10 Best Ways to Develop Your Killer Instinct is serious material that contains

proven training techniques for developing and sharpening this essential mental attribute. The techniques and exercises featured in this book are based on Sammy Franco's 30+ years of research, training and teaching the martial arts and self-defense sciences. They have helped thousands of his students excel and achieve their personal goals, and he's confident they will help you reach new levels of success. ELIMINATE YOUR FEARS ONCE AND FOR ALL Here, you'll also find step-by-step strategies for dealing with the debilitating fear and anxiety often associated with many high-risk situations. By studying and practicing the concepts and principles in this book, you will feel a renewed sense of empowerment, enabling you to live life with greater self-confidence and personal freedom.

Raising Free People - Akilah S. Richards

2020-11-01

No one is immune to the byproducts of compulsory schooling and standardized testing. And while reform may be a worthy cause for

some, it is not enough for countless others still trying to navigate the tyranny of what schooling has always been. Raising Free People argues that we need to build and work within systems truly designed for any human to learn, grow, socialize, and thrive, regardless of age, ability, background, or access to money. Families and conscious organizations across the world are healing generations of school wounds by pivoting into self-directed, intentional community-building, and Raising Free People shows you exactly how unschooling can help facilitate this process. Individual experiences influence our approach to parenting and education, so we need more than the rules, tools, and "bad adult" guilt trips found in so many parenting and education books. We need to reach behind our behaviors to seek and find our triggers; to examine and interrupt the ways that social issues such as colonization still wreak havoc on our ability to trust ourselves, let alone children. Raising Free People explores examples

of the transition from school or homeschooling to unschooling, how single parents and people facing financial challenges unschool successfully, and the ways unschooling allows us to address generational trauma and unlearn the habits we mindlessly pass on to children. In these detailed and unabashed stories and insights, Richards examines the ways that her relationships to blackness, decolonization, and healing work all combine to form relationships and enable community-healing strategies rooted in an unschooling practice. This is how millions of families center human connection, practice clear and honest communication, and raise children who do not grow up to feel that they narrowly survived their childhoods.

The Rebirth of Education - Lant Pritchett
2013-10-14

Despite great progress around the world in getting more kids into schools, too many leave without even the most basic skills. In India's rural Andhra Pradesh, for instance, only about

one in twenty children in fifth grade can perform basic arithmetic. The problem is that schooling is not the same as learning. In *The Rebirth of Education*, Lant Pritchett uses two metaphors from nature to explain why. The first draws on Ori Brafman and Rod Beckstrom's book about the difference between centralized and decentralized organizations, *The Starfish and the Spider*. Schools systems tend to be centralized and suffer from the limitations inherent in top-down designs. The second metaphor is the concept of isomorphic mimicry. Pritchett argues that many developing countries superficially imitate systems that were successful in other nations—much as a nonpoisonous snake mimics the look of a poisonous one. Pritchett argues that the solution is to allow functional systems to evolve locally out of an environment pressured for success. Such an ecosystem needs to be open to variety and experimentation, locally operated, and flexibly financed. The only main cost is ceding control; the reward would be the rebirth

of education suited for today's world.

Exuberant Animal - Frank Forencich 2006-08-30

Move to live, live to move! Health and fitness is a bushy, multi-disciplinary practice that includes body, mind, spirit and the creative imagination.

Exuberant Animal explores the totality of human health and promotes a truly integrated approach that spans culture, biology, psychology and animal behavior. You'll discover powerful new

ideas for movement and living that will stimulate your vitality, creativity and enthusiasm. "Frank is a superb writer. His voice is clear, accurate and accessible." Robert Sapolsky "No joy, no

gain!-that might well be Frank Forencich's exercise motto. A nation filled with fit, playful hominids fully in touch with their evolutionary

heritage is a true pleasure to contemplate." Bill McKibben "I really appreciate Frank's innovative approach. His method is sophisticated, playful and holistic." Debbie Armstrong 1984 Olympic

Gold Medalist

How Children Learn - John Holt 2009-04-20

From the preface by Deborah Meier: "We have a long way to go to make John Holt's dream available to all children. But his books make it possible and easier for many of us to join him in the journey." In this enduring classic, rich with deep, original insight into the nature of early learning, John Holt was the first to make clear that, for small children, "learning is as natural as breathing." In his delightful book he observes how children actually learn to talk, to read, to count, and to reason, and how, as adults, we can best encourage these natural abilities in our children.

Unschooling To University - Judy Arnall

2018-09-21

Learn how to acquire a personalized education through self-directed learning, and meet post-secondary entrance requirements.

Free to Learn - Peter Gray 2013-03-05

A leading expert in childhood development makes the case for why self-directed learning -- "unschooling" -- is the best way to get kids to

learn. In *Free to Learn*, developmental psychologist Peter Gray argues that in order to foster children who will thrive in today's constantly changing world, we must entrust them to steer their own learning and development. Drawing on evidence from anthropology, psychology, and history, he demonstrates that free play is the primary means by which children learn to control their lives, solve problems, get along with peers, and

become emotionally resilient. A brave, counterintuitive proposal for freeing our children from the shackles of the curiosity-killing institution we call school, *Free to Learn* suggests that it's time to stop asking what's wrong with our children, and start asking what's wrong with the system. It shows how we can act -- both as parents and as members of society -- to improve children's lives and to promote their happiness and learning.