

The Learning Process



Discover your Child's Learning Needs
to Unlock their Full Potential

The Learning Process

Learning doesn't happen overnight - even though sometimes it looks like it does. Learning is a process that all students have to work through.

For example, in order for you to read this report you had to learn how to use a computer to find it, download it, and maybe print it out. It took you time to learn how to use a computer that way, you had to go through a process to learn how to do it.

Knowing this process is important because you needed different information and support at each stage. For instance, first you need to know where the report was so that you could find it, you needed someone to give you that information. Then you needed the ability to access the report, you needed information on how to make the computer do what you wanted it to do. Lastly you need to be able to read and understand this information and to make it useful to you.

That was your process of learning.

Learning is a process, it doesn't just happen. For the sake of clarity the learning process can be summarized into three stages, each stage building on the other.

The Three Stages of the Learning Process



Stage 1 Skill Development



Stage 2 Information Gathering



Stage 3 Mastery

The purpose of learning is to achieve stage 3 - mastery - the ability to use and control knowledge and information. When a student has mastered a subject he or she can get good grades and pass exams in that subject. More importantly the student now has that knowledge and information stored in their brain for use anytime they need it.

Getting to mastery is not straightforward.

Students have to go through a learning process that can take anything from a few minutes to many years depending on what is being mastered. Even when mastery of something seems to happen overnight - as with young children who can't read one day but are able to read the next- children have been working through the same learning process as children who learn to read more slowly and painfully.

Mastery is the last stage of the learning process. We all want students to get to stage 3 - mastery over what they are learning - so they can get into college, write their own ticket, have a life full of opportunity and success. But before students achieve mastery there are two important stages they have to work through.

Before students can achieve mastery they need information, the facts and figures, the knowledge that makes mastery possible. Schools are very good at helping children gather the information that helps them move on to mastery. Most educational programs are based on providing children with information and knowledge. School curricula list what children should be taught at each grade level.

Unfortunately most people see this as the first stage of the learning process. They assume that if you give children enough information they will be ready to move onto mastery. For example they think that if you show children how to multiply two numbers and to get the right answer that the child has mastered that skill. For some children this may be true but many children will have no understanding of what they are doing or why. These students will never achieve mastery.

Then there are the children who struggle to gather the information they need. They are often labeled as unfocused, daydreamers, even as being too lazy to learn! Why are they not able to concentrate and gather the information they need?

Too often we expect children to learn, to go through the learning process, without giving them the key to learning.

This first stage of the learning process is the key to all learning. Children need skills and strategies that enable them to gather and process the information they are given. Without this first step many children are unable to awaken or use their inherent learning ability and never reach their full learning potential.

This first stage is the often the missing piece of the learning process.

Ignoring the first stage is like buying a car without wheels - no matter how hard you press the gas pedal it is not going anywhere! Without this first stage, no matter how much information or mastery you try to impose on your child it will either not work or it will collapse after a short time. This first stage makes your child's success possible

Most learning approaches focus on stages 2 and 3 and actually make the situation worse because a child has no way to process all the extra information or achieve mastery. So instead of a feeling of accomplishment they feel despair because, while they should be succeeding, they are still not.

Leading to Learning takes a different, unique approach to helping children reach their learning potential.

What makes Leading to Learning special?

1. We help children develop the skills that are the foundation to all learning

Rather than expecting children to learn when they may not have the skills they need to be able to learn we start at Stage 1 of the learning process

We diagnose a child's learning style and pinpoint the skills and strategies that are missing from that first crucial stage. Then we show you how to help your child develop those skills.

We show you how to put the wheels back on your child's car!

By giving children access to missing skills and opening up their unique path to learning they are able to process information so when the time comes for mastery they have the tools to make it happen

Imagine a carpenter trying to build your house without a saw, hammer or scaffolding. Pretty difficult wouldn't you say? That is exactly what most learning approaches do for your child. Leading to Learning gives your child the tools for success first so actually applying them becomes almost second nature.

2. We know parents make the difference in children's learning lives

Research states that up to 80% of a child's success in school depends on what parents do at home with their child. You have an enormous influence on how well your child learns and it is **you** who must ensure that your child has the foundational skills that lead to success.

Without your support your child will never reach his or her full learning potential and may struggle for years to overcome learning difficulties many of which can be addressed quickly and easily.

You know your child better than anyone else! At Leading to Learning we respect the special relationship you have with your child and our programs are built on a unique mix of both our skills and expertise.

We give YOU the power to make a difference in your child's learning career, a difference only you can make.

3. Our Diagnostic Learning Programs are easy to access, simple to use and designed to provide you, the parent, with all you need to ensure your child succeeds.

Until now it has been either very expensive or very difficult to get a timely, accurate assessment of your child's learning skills and the reports are often difficult to understand and the recommended strategies are impossible to put into practice. As a result very few parents could afford the time or money to get the information they need to be able to help their child in ways that make a difference.

Leading to Learning has changed that.

Our programs are affordable, ready for use, easily accessible (all you need is a computer and a telephone) and designed to give you strategies that you can implement immediately.

For the first time ALL parents can get the information they need to be able to help their children succeed.

About Patricia Porter

Dr. Patricia Porter is Learning Skill Assessment Specialist and highly sought after international speaker, educator and ambassador for maximizing children's learning potential.

After a 35 year teaching career, Dr. Porter founded Leading to Learning, a company based on her proprietary Path-Finder© Program, delivering in-person and online assessment and education for children aged 4-14.

Through her programs Patricia has helped hundreds of families better understand their children's learning needs. By providing a clear strategy tailored to the individual child, parents have peace of mind that their child now has a path to reach their true learning potential.