FUTURE WISE
EDUCATING OUR CHILDREN FOR A CHANGING WORLD
DAVID N. PERKINS
Educating for the Unknown

Reimagining Learning for a Changing World
Educating for the Unknown

Learning that Matters

The Small World Paradox

Opportunity Stories

Problem Stories

The Relevance Gap

Beyond Six

World Paradox
Ax^2 + Bx + C = 0
Ax² + Bx + C = 0
$Ax^2 + Bx + C = 0$
Learning that Matters

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Opportunity Stories

Problem Stories

The Relevance Gap

Educating for the Unknown

Beyonds

Six Beyonds

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The Small World Paradox

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Educating for the Unknown
The Small World Paradox

As our collective world gets smaller, the worlds we individually engage become more numerous and complex.
The Small World Paradox

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Problem Stories
The French Revolution

Through the French Revolution, I was able to understand the generalities of world conflict (for instance, how the lack of freedom, poverty, over-taxation, weak economies, the struggle between the Church and state, or social inequity has always been a reason to engage in war).
Narrative

(1) narratives are helpful in thinking about our world.

(2) nuances will inevitably emerge which may challenge our narratives.

(3) if we do decide to believe in a narrative, we had better be ready, willing and able to defend it.

(4) while narratives have an unmistakable allure, it is crucial to NEVER overlook evidence that will support a contrary position just because it is easier to maintain an original one.
“Mattermatics”

+ 1
x 2
÷ 3
Opportunity Stories

- Learning that Matters
- The Small World Paradox
- The Relevance Gap
- Problem Stories
- Six Beyonds
- Educating for the Unknown
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Educating for the Unknown
Ax^2 + Bx + C = 0
\[ Ax^2 + Bx + C = 0 \]
Understanding OF → Understanding WITH
Understanding OF  ➔  Understanding WITH
"Mattermatics"

\[ + 1 \times 2 \div 3 \]
The Relevance Gap

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The ACHIEVEMENT gap
The RELEVANCE gap
INFORMATION
The Magna Carta

1066
AaBbCcDd...
1492

The French Revolution

3 x 7 = 21

206 bones in the adult human body

The Big Bang

E = MC²

Omnia Gallia est divisa in partes tres

To be or not to be...
EXPERTISE
Discipline

EXPERTISE

Discipline

EXPERT AMATEURISM
The Relevance Gap

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Educating for the Unknown
Beyond Topics
Content as tools for thinking and action

Beyond the Traditional Disciplines
Renewed and extended visions of the disciplines

Beyond discrete disciplines
Interdisciplinary topics and problems

Beyond academic engagement
Personal choice, significance, commitment, and passion

Beyond Content
21st century skills, digital competences, etc.

Beyond Local
Global perspectives, problems, studies

Beyond Content
21st century skills, digital competences, etc.
1. Communication in the mother tongue
2. Communication in foreign languages
3. Mathematical competence and basic competences in science and technology
4. Digital competence
5. Learning to learn
6. Social and civic competences
7. Sense of initiative and entrepreneurship
8. Cultural awareness and expression
Beyond Content
21st century skills, digital competences, etc.

Beyond academic engagement
Personal choice, significance, commitment, and passion

Beyond discrete disciplines
Interdisciplinary topics and problems

Beyond the Traditional Disciplines
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Global perspectives, problems, studies
"Mattermatics"

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&\times 2 \\
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Six Beyonds Learning that Matters

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Educating for the Unknown

Learning that Matters

Stories
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Six Beyonds
As our collective world gets smaller, the worlds we individually engage become more numerous and complex.
Hakuin Ekaku (1685–1768)