

Teaching and Learning Reading List

A Good Childhood. By Richard Layard and Judy Dunn

Amazon Review:

Every day the newspapers lament the problems facing our children - broken homes, pressures to eat and drink, the stress of exams. The same issues are discussed in every pub and at every dinner party. But is life really more difficult for children than it was, and if so why? And how can we make it better?

This book, which is a result of a two year investigation by the Children's Society and draws upon the work of the UK's leading experts in many fields, explores the main stresses and influences to which every child is exposed - family, friends, youth culture, values, and schooling, and will make recommendations as to how we can improve the upbringing of our children. It tackles issues which affect every child, whatever their background, and questions and provides solutions to the belief that life has become so extraordinarily difficult for children in general.

The experts make 30 specific recommendations, written not from the point of view of academics, but for the general reader - above all for parents and teachers. We expect publication to be a major event and the centre of widespread media attention.

The Teacher's Toolkit. Raise Classroom achievement with strategies for every learner. By Paul Ginnis

Amazon Review:

Packed with practical classroom strategies this teacher's resource will enable you to: - meet the needs of different learning styles - stimulate your own creativity - add spice to your teaching - challenge the gifted - and the disruptive! Whatever subject you teach, this comprehensive volume will help you to develop thinking skills in your students; promote citizenship and an understanding of democracy; fine-tune study skills and help students acquire the attitude and skills for true independence. Drawing on neuroscience, psychology and sociology "The Teacher's Toolkit" provides an overview of recent thinking innovations in teaching and presents over fifty learning techniques for all subjects and age groups, with dozens of practical ideas for managing group work, tackling behavioural issues and promoting personal responsibility. It also presents tools for checking your teaching skills - from lesson planning to performance management. "This is one of those rare and precious books which has that uncanny knack of revealing explicitly to you things about teaching which you knew instinctively all along but had never thought about so clearly." - Professor Tim Brighouse, Chief Education Officer, Birmingham Education Authority. "Paul Ginnis has constructed a toolkit for teachers which is the finished article. Well informed, well researched and well written, this is a book which every teacher in the land should get their hands on." - Alistair Smith, author and leading educational trainer.

See also: <http://www.theteachertoolkit.com/>