Great Minds and How to Grow Them

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A key breakthrough in our knowledge of the brain in this century is that brain structure and function is not fixed and unchangeable, and not the same irrespective of context or culture. It is, in fact, exquisitely plastic, mouldable by experience throughout life. It is also ‘permeable’, responding to social attitudes and expectations, as is shown by brain-imaging studies of stereotype threat.

(Wraga et al., 2006).
The formula for success

Potential → Opportunities → Support → Motivation → High Achievement

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Share your passions…
Share their passions….
Let them be bold…..
You can’t do it for them…..
People come in all personality types

Motivation

Capability
The harder path leads to the better view
The key competencies to be developed

Advanced Cognitive Performance Characteristics

Values, Attitudes and Attributes.

HOW TO THINK

HOW TO BEHAVE
How do High Performing Learners think?

Creating
- Intellectual playfulness
- Flexible thinking
- Fluent thinking
- Originality
- Evolutionary or revolutionary thinking

Meta-thinking
- Meta-cognition
- Self-regulation
- Strategy planning
- Intellectual confidence

Linking
- Connection finding
- Generalisation
- Imagination
- ‘Big picture’ thinking
- Seeing alternative perspectives
- Abstraction

Analysing
- Critical or logical thinking
- Precision
- Complex and multi-step problem solving

Realising
- Automaticity
- Speed and accuracy
Developing a strategy....

1) 2 9 7
   + 3 4 6
   = 6 4 3

2) 5 8 3
   + 1 7 8
   = 7 6 1

3) 6 0 8
   + 2 4 7
   = 8 5 5

4) 6 3 9
   + 5 7 3
   = 1 2 1 2

5) 8 0 4
   + 7 5 7
   = 1 5 6 1

6) 2 8 5
   + 7 3 6
   = 1 0 2 1

7) 3 2 8
   + 7 6
   + 1 3 9
   = 1 1 7 1

8) 1 8 4
   + 3 2 7
   + 6 4
   = 1 8 3 5

9) 1 9 5
   + 3 2 2
   + 5 0 5
   = 1 0 6 2

10) 2 2 1
    + 6 8
    + 3 5 7
    = 1 2 4 8

11) 6 3 3
    + 2 7 4
    + 4 6
    = 1 3 4 3

12) 5 3 4
    + 2 0 8
    + 7 5
    = 8 1 7 7

13) 6 0 3
    + 1 5 6
    + 3 7
    = 1 4 3 6

14) 4 7 6
    + 3 2 3
    + 1 9 5
    = 9 9 5 4

15) 7 9 1
    + 2 4 6
    + 5 6 0
    = 1 9 4 7
Flexible Thinking

Simon says: "Put your left arm up!"

WHAT'S THE FIRST WORD YOU THINK OF?
Linking – connection finding
How do High Performing Learners behave?

- Collaborative
- Concerned for society
- Confident

- Enquiring
- Creative and enterprising
- Open-minded
- Risk-taking

- Practice
- Perseverance
- Resilience

Empathetic
Agile
Hardworking
Chose a book and a VAA

Do you think Mr Darcy was open-minded?
Empathy

Was Goldilocks a good girl?
Open-minded

Should we reintroduce wolves into the UK?
Key Ideas for growing minds
Encourage Curiosity

‘Why do you think it is like that’
Teach technique

‘Try it like this’
Technical Language

‘The word for that is’
Find a space to talk

‘What did you learn at school today’
Encourage when things go wrong

‘It takes 10,000 hours to make an expert’
Not everyone shines early. Some take longer to start to achieve.

Don’t worry.

Remember – in the story the tortoise beats the hare.
Listen!

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KEEP CALM AND CARRY ON
Remember - Parents are important

- Only 15% of time per day is spent in class
- What you do at home can make a real difference
- Parents can build or undermine self-concept and self-esteem
- Parenting to grow minds does not require you to be Einstein
- Parents can influence aspiration motivation, attitude