

John Dewey

Quotes

Mean, Thinking, School, Education, Men, Children, Communication, Teaching, Philosophy, Teacher, Science, Educational, Ideas, Mind, Attitude, Community, Facts, Art, Order, Democracy

We do not learn from experience...we learn from reflecting on experience.

~John Dewey

Education is not an affair of 'telling' and being told, but an active and constructive process.

~John Dewey

You cannot teach today the same way you did yesterday to prepare students for tomorrow.

~John Dewey

Give the pupils something to do, not something to learn; and the doing is of such a nature as to demand thinking; learning naturally results.

~John Dewey

Education is not preparation for life; education is life itself.

~John Dewey

If we teach today's students as we taught yesterday's, we rob them of tomorrow.

~John Dewey

How can the child learn to be a free and responsible citizen when the teacher is bound?

~John Dewey

To find out what one is fitted to do, and to secure an opportunity to do it, is the key to happiness.

~John Dewey

I believe that education is the fundamental method of social progress and reform.

~John Dewey

The real process of education should be the process of learning to think through the application of real problems.

~John Dewey

Art is not the possession of the few who are recognized writers, painters, musicians; it is the authentic expression of any and all individuality.

~John Dewey

The most important attitude that can be formed is that of desire to go on learning.

~John Dewey

Every great advance in science has issued from a new audacity of imagination.

~John Dewey

All learning begins when our comfortable ideas turn out to be inadequate.

~John Dewey

There's all the difference in the world between having something to say, and having to say something.

~John Dewey

Nature is the mother and the habitat of man, even if sometimes a stepmother and an unfriendly home.

~John Dewey

Failure is instructive. The person who really thinks learns quite as much from his failures as from his successes.

~John Dewey

Democracy has to be born anew every generation, and education is its

midwife.

~John Dewey

We only think when we are confronted with problems.

~John Dewey

The deepest urge in human nature is the desire to feel important.

~John Dewey

Schools should take an active part in directing social change, and share in the construction of a new social order

~John Dewey

To me faith means not worrying.

~John Dewey

Human nature exists and operates in an environment. And it is not 'in' that environment as coins are in a box, but as a plant is in the sunlight and soil.

~John Dewey

The good man is the man who, no matter how morally unworthy he has been, is moving to become better.

~John Dewey

I believe that in this way the teacher always is the prophet of the true God and the usherer in of the true kingdom of God.

~John Dewey

Confidence is directness and courage in meeting the facts of life.

~John Dewey

The phrase "think for one's self" is a pleonasm. Unless one does it for one's self, it isn't thinking.

~John Dewey

Just as a flower which seems beautiful and has color but no perfume, so are the fruitless words of the man who speaks them but does them not.

~John Dewey

Schools have ignored the value of experience and chosen to teach by pouring in.

~John Dewey

What's in a question, you ask? Everything. It is evoking stimulating response or stultifying inquiry. It is, in essence, the very core of teaching.

~John Dewey

We never educate directly, but indirectly by means of the environment. Whether we permit chance environments to do the work, or whether we design environments for the purpose makes a great difference.

~John Dewey

The result of the educative process is capacity for further education.

~John Dewey

The need for growth - what we might call immaturity - is not a negative state of being.

~John Dewey

No system has ever as yet existed which did not in some form involve the exploitation of some human beings for the advantage of others.

~John Dewey

Creative thinking will improve as we relate the new fact to the old and all facts to each other.

~John Dewey

The self is not something ready-made, but something in continuous formation through choice of action.

~John Dewey

Skepticism: the mark and even the pose of the educated mind.

~John Dewey

Of what use, educationally speaking, is it to be able to see the end in the beginning?

~John Dewey

Time and memory are true artists; they remould reality nearer to the heart's desire.

~John Dewey

Independent self-reliant people would be a counterproductive anachronism in the collective society of the future where people will be defined by their associations.

~John Dewey

Education, therefore, is a process of living and not a preparation for future living.

~John Dewey

Education is life itself.

~John Dewey

Hunger not to have, but to be

~John Dewey

Arriving at one goal is the starting point to another.

~John Dewey

The end justifies the means only when the means used are such as actually bring about the desired and desirable end.

~John Dewey

Anyone who has begun to think, places some portion of the world in jeopardy.

~John Dewey

As long as politics is the shadow cast on society by big business, the attenuation of the shadow will not change the substance.

~John Dewey

Even dogs and horses have their actions modified by association with human beings; they form different habits because human beings are concerned with what they do.

~John Dewey

Perhaps the greatest of all pedagogical fallacies is the notion that a person learns only the particular thing he is studying at the time.

~John Dewey

The experience has to be formulated in order to be communicated.

~John Dewey

Instruction is important.

~John Dewey

Modern philosophy certainly exacts a surrender of all supernaturalism and fixed dogma and rigid institutionalism with which Christianity has been historically associated

~John Dewey

Vocational training is the training of animals or slaves. It fits them to become cogs in the industrial machine. Free men need liberal

education to prepare them to make a good use of their freedom.

~John Dewey

The aim of education is to enable individuals to continue their education "or that the object and reward of learning is continued capacity for growth.

~John Dewey

Such happiness as life is capable of comes from the full participation of all our powers in the endeavor to wrest from each changing situations of experience its own full and unique meaning.

~John Dewey

Education, in its broadest sense, is the means of this social continuity of life.

~John Dewey

No man's credit is as good as his money.

~John Dewey

Cease conceiving of education as mere preparation for later life, and make it the full meaning of the present life.

~John Dewey

Schools should take part in the great work of construction and organization that will have to be done.

~John Dewey

The need for growth, for development, for change, is fundamental to life.

~John Dewey

a problem well put is half solved.

~John Dewey

We can have facts without thinking but we cannot have thinking without facts.

~John Dewey

Always make the other person feel important.

~John Dewey

The ultimate aim of production is not production of goods but the production of free human beings associated with one another on terms of equality.

~John Dewey

All genuine education comes about through experience.

~John Dewey

Purposeful action is thus the goal of all that is truly educative.

~John Dewey

In brief, the function of knowledge is to make one experience freely available to other experiences.

~John Dewey

The conception of education as a social process and function has no definite meaning until we define the kind of society we have in mind.

~John Dewey

Complete adaptation to environment means death. The essential point in all response is the desire to control environment.

~John Dewey

Every teacher should realize the dignity of his calling.

~John Dewey

The belief that all genuine education comes about through experience

does not mean that all experiences are genuinely or equally educative.

~John Dewey

Where there is giving there must be taking.

~John Dewey

Without some goals and some efforts to reach it, no man can live.

~John Dewey

One of the saddest things about US education is that the wisdom of our most successful teachers is lost to the profession when they retire.

~John Dewey

To "learn from experience" is to make a backward and forward connection between what we do to things and what we enjoy or suffer from things in consequence.

~John Dewey

As long as art is the beauty parlor of civilization, neither art nor civilization is secure.

~John Dewey

Every living being needs continually renewed, and education is simply the chief process by which renewal occurs.

~John Dewey

Nothing takes root in mind when there is no balance between doing and receiving.

~John Dewey

Etymologically, the word education means just a process of leading or bringing up.

~John Dewey

Any genuine teaching will result, if successful, in someone's knowing how to bring about a better condition of things than existed earlier.

~John Dewey

The path of least resistance and least trouble is a mental rut already made. It requires troublesome work to undertake the alternation of old beliefs.

~John Dewey

How many students ... were rendered callous to ideas, and how many lost the impetus to learn because of the way in which learning was experienced by them?

~John Dewey

By reading the characteristic features of any man's castles in the air you can make a shrewd guess as to his underlying desires which are frustrated.

~John Dewey

Liberty is not just an idea, an abstract principle. It is power, effective power to do specific things. There is no such thing as liberty in general; liberty, so to speak, at large.

~John Dewey

To be interested is to be absorbed in, wrapped up in, carried away by, some object. To take an interest is to be on the alert, to care about, to be attentive.

~John Dewey

The interaction of knowledge and skills with experience is key to learning.

~John Dewey

The spontaneous power of the child, his demand for self-expression,

can not by any possibility be suppressed.

~John Dewey

I believe that in the ideal school we have the reconciliation of the individualistic and the institutional ideals.

~John Dewey

When others are not doing what we would like them to or are threatening disobedience, we are most conscious of the need of controlling them and of the influences by which they are controlled.

~John Dewey

The aim of education is growth: the aim of growth is more growth

~John Dewey

Intellectually religious emotions are not creative but conservative. They attach themselves readily to the current view of the world and consecrate it.

~John Dewey

To the being of fully alive, the future is not ominous but a promise; it surrounds the present like a halo.

~John Dewey

Men have never fully used [their] powers to advance the good in life, because they have waited upon some power external to themselves and to nature to do the work they are responsible for doing.

~John Dewey

We cannot think of ourselves save as to some extent social being. Hence, we cannot separate the idea of ourselves and our own good from our idea of others and their good.

~John Dewey

Luck, bad if not good, will always be with us. But it has a way of favoring the intelligent and showing its back to the stupid.

~John Dewey

One lives with so many bad deeds on one's conscience and some good intentions in one's heart.

~John Dewey

The central problem of an education based upon experience is to select the kind of present experience that live fruitfully and creatively in subsequent experiences.

~John Dewey

I believe that the only true education comes through the stimulation of the child's powers by the demands of the social situations in which he finds himself.

~John Dewey

If we learn not humility, we learn nothing.

~John Dewey

The plea for the predominance of learning to read in early school life because of the great importance attaching to literature seems to be a perversion.

~John Dewey

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