

ARE WE LOSING OUT IN EDUCATING OUR CHILDREN ??
ARE WE PRODUCING A GENERATION OF MARKS SCORING
MACHINES ???

I returned home in the evening after a grueling day at work.
I was exhausted and irritable what with the tussle with the boss.
My 12-year-old son sheepishly approached me to sign his marks card.
One look at the scores and my temper flew.

“ Why can’t you concentrate and read?” I bellowed.
“Can’t you keep what you read in memory and take good marks?”

Looking straight in my eyes, my son retorted,
“Can you or mommy teach me how to concentrate, and what I should
do to improve my memory capacity?
My teachers at school say the same thing, but nobody tells us how or
what to do.”

Have you also been in a similar situation like this before ?

*It is so easy as adults to admonish a child or student to concentrate and
memorize what they read. But if they turn back and question "How to
do it?", we are at a loss to answer.*

Life skills like any other skills requires constant practice to hone it.

People have the tendency to take these skills for granted and over a period of
time it rusts from lack of practice.

Children on the other hand have lot of opportunities to practice in their daily
interaction and learning and they retain their skills at Memory and
Concentration.

But parents, elders and teachers curtail even this to keep up with the
competition and with sole aim of scoring good marks.

Children are constantly discouraged to stop playing, conversing, playing outdoor games and spend their quality time the way they want. They are forced to sit tight in their room and “read” lessons.

Such lack of exposure and lack of inter-communication leads to obtund life skills in the present generation of children. Many a group of educational institutions have seen through this malady and are now encouraging children to be what they want to do best, play with toys and not bother about forcibly mug up rhymes, exams and scores.

Life skills thus form the very foundation of the structure a child / student is in the process of construction. If the foundation is sound, he can raise floors related to knowledge, job, career, profession, money, power etc, and be successful.

Basic Skills are inbuilt perception and awareness in an individual. They take the form of ability, adaptability and application.

Abilities	Adaptabilities	Application
Memory	Frustration tolerance	Goal formulation
Concentration	Time consciousness	Planning
Comprehension	Locus of control	Executing
Logical reasoning	Need for achievement	Foresight
Divergent thinking	Seeking responsibility	Self regulation
Willingness to learn	Motivation	Objectivity
Abstract reasoning	Leadership	Maturity

<http://www.mindpowersolution.com/BasicSkill.htm>

Education is not just the abundance of information in the brain which probably runs riot and incomprehensive. What is required is channeling this information to form character, to strengthen and expand the intellect so as to make an individual capable of independent sustenance.

Ninety percent of an individual's force of thought is wasted without these basic skills and therefore constantly tending to commit blunders.

A trained mind with perfect basic skills seldom makes a mistake.

The only way to retain and sharpen the existing basic skills is to keep up the practice and be detached about the consequences. One ounce of practice is worth thousand tones of big talk.

The question arises now as to whether these skills are enough for our everyday living.

WE ARE NOT TALKING ABOUT SURVIVING BUT ABOUT THRIVING.

As Swami Vivekananda said, "The essence of education is concentration of mind, not the collection of facts. If I had to do my education over again I would not study facts at all. I would develop the power of concentration, memory and detachment and with this perfect instrument I could collect as much facts at will".

Information processing happens at a macro level in the brain. Each detail is recorded in the brain in association with the existing information. To use memory and concentration a student should learn to exercise various regions of the brain. Memory is measured in four different ways: Recognition, Recall, Relearning, and Reintegration

Emphasis on evaluation of these life skills should be a part of curriculum in education. Products and literature on enhancing them should be included. Constant practice in day-to-day life should be encouraged as long as one is fit to function.

MindPower Solutions is a group of professional psychologist, behavioral scientist and educationists and have dedicated themselves to find a suitable solution for this.

After 18 years of research and validation in various schools at Bangalore involving nearly 4000 students, the psychologists and educationists have devised some basic psychometric games.

The software modules are six and are built on the premises of connections elucidated by neuropsychologists related to these skills.

MindPower Solutions Pvt Ltd, has now ventured to take this forward to the community at large by taking advantage of the development in the field of computer technology.

<http://www.mindpowersolution.com/AboutUs.htm>

These psychometric games have now been developed on web based Visual basic platform to produce versatile software for universal application. These games are fun to work, but at the same time benefits the student to learn the techniques of memory.

Also, by constant practice they can now sharpen their skills.

<http://www.mindpowersolution.com/FamilyVersion.htm>

Modules :

There are six modules designed to test the basic ability of an individual in terms of Memory & Concentration. Needless to say this is the most important basic skill for not just to survive but also to thrive in this competitive environment. Each of the six modules tests the six variants of Memory & Concentration in an individual, namely:

1.
Picture recognition
2.
Paired Associate Learning
3.
Immediate Recall
4.
Serial processing
5.
Parallel processing

6.

Recognition and Recall

Each of these modules runs at III levels from easy to difficult.

At each level, the individual's performance is depicted as Scores obtained.

A feedback has been built into the software for all these 18 levels depending on the marks one scores during the test. The consultant psychologist based on their knowledge and experience after testing more than 3000 candidates has offered this basic feedback.

Each individual can assess his/her performance any time by clicking on "history", which gives complete details of date and time of taking the tests, marks scored each time and even time taken to do the test. This builds the confidence level and encourages more participation to eventually culminate in improvement and enhancement of memory and concentration.

Essentially, this software is a SELF AWARENESS tool that surely motivates the individual to realize one's capability and seek or be receptive for improvement. Also, if repeatedly done over a period of time works as Training tool to enhance their capability.

The software gets installed in the home computer and stays in the hard-disc as long as the computer at home is in good condition.

That way parents and three children can work on the modules and practice at their own time, in their own place, any number of times.

The more they practice, the better the skills.

The person whose skills are good stands out as the "smart" one.

Each level gives scoring of marks, and feedback how to improve.

History records the database of all their attempts and scoring and gives a over-all performance view. This makes our software a unique Self-Awareness product.

Unlike Videogames, our modules are programmed in such a way that your computer itself random generates the scenes from a large database. So every time one plays the modules, they have to use the skills to get good scores. Hence is a training software as well