

THE COMMUNIQUE FROM LIFE

March, 2019

EXPERT'S TALK



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WHY PLAY BASED PEDAGOGY IS THE NEED OF THE HOUR

Today, we are grappling with exponential rate of change. World is connected like it has never been before through technology. Continuous learning (of all kinds) is not a choice but a necessity. The good news is there are lots of quality content that is available for free. Yet, educators, parents and learners grapple with a lot of difficulties in the learning process. Let us discuss a few important ones to begin with.

Barring a fraction of the new age educational institutions, lecture-based sessions constitute knowledge dissemination process. There is also a "One size fits all" approach, be it the instruction mode as well as the content provided (i.e. books), whereas the reality is that each and every learner is unique in terms of his/her learning abilities/preferences. IQ continues to get a lot more importance in the competitive world and EQ (although it gets discussed), gets pushed to the backburner. Lastly, the most important aspect is related to the way assessments are done. More often than not, assessments and relative grading instead of helping a learner improve, end up having a detrimental impact on learning.

Education should always be not just about knowledge imparted in classroom in any given subject but should also trigger interest and curiosity in the subject being taught so that the learner gets motivated to learn more. In the 21st century, the skills that need to be imparted beyond the subjects are the 4Cs – Communication, Collaboration, Critical Thinking and Creativity. Play has been found to be the natural form of learning according to many eminent psychiatrists.

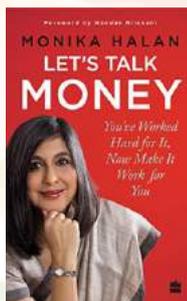
[While the word "Play" has a much broader context, in this article it is being discussed in the context of games and activities of different kinds. In the first few articles, will try to go with this limited definition. In later articles, will try to cover alternate forms of Play]

In my 8+ years with both adult & student learners, play has been able to positively impact learning 90% or more occasions by creating interest/curiosity in diverse topics. While playing a game, people are involved in action and interact with each other, thereby encouraging collaboration and social/peer learning (Emotional Intelligence). Games addresses all types of learners in VARK (Visual, Auditory, Read-Write, Kinaesthetic). It is possible to design games to varying learner abilities with sufficient motivational elements to help them involved. Play fosters creativity and creates a high engagement environment for learning. Play facilitates Happiness/Flow state with well-designed goals, and balances so that learner does not get anxious/bored. A game provides constant motivations and enables fun during the learning process (overcoming difficulty/monotony). In a game/play, failure/loss is not seen as a taboo. Play encourages Growth Mindset (propounded by the famous Stanford Psychologist Carol Dweck) thereby encouraging learner to repeat the learning (persistence).

The good news is any kind of content – concept, terminology, process flow, rules could be adapted into play/game form at fairly low costs. Given its multiple benefits, it is worthwhile to frame policy/processes to encourage educators to incorporate this.

Would like to hear your thoughts on these. Planning to share my various different experiments in game-based learning and also correlate with research work done by others in the subsequent editions.





READ A BOOK THIS MARCH!!

LET'S TALK MONEY

We work hard to earn our money. But regardless of how much we earn, the money worry never goes away. Bills, rent, EMIs, medical costs, vacations, kids' education and, somewhere at the back of the head, the niggling thought about being under-prepared for our own retirement.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if our money worked for us just as we work hard for it? What if we had a proven system to identify dud investment schemes? What if it could just plug seamlessly into a simple, jargon-free plan to get more value out of our money, and have a super good life today? India's most trusted name in personal finance, Monika Halan offers you a feet-on-the-ground system to build financial security.

Not a get-rich-quick guide, this book helps you build a smart system to live your dream life, rather than stay worried about the 'right' investment or 'perfect' insurance.

amazon

WHAT HAPPENED @ LIFE IN FEBRUARY 2019

LIVE@FIVE

8TH FEB, 2019

LIFE Presents
LIVE @ FIVE

The Co-Founders of
Pay it Forward
Preetha Wali & Anu Seth
Will be on

f LIVE

Topic
Importance of understanding
personal finance and simple ways to
improve your financial quotient.
It's never too late to learn!

FRIDAY
(8th February 2019)
IST 05:00 PM

f/leadershipinitiativeforeducators/



Preetha Wali, Anu Seth and Vinitha the Co-founders of Pay it Forward spoke on the importance of Personal Finance Awareness It's never too late to learn! You can reach out to them with your questions to "ask.payitforward@gmail.com"

Watch their video

START



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LIFE in collaboration with Kidskintha- a digital media site for millennial parents and educators just finished hosting a mega virtual conference with 28 experts from around the world. The conference had speakers from the diverse fields of neuroscience, child development, psychology, the rise of digital identities covered in 7 specialized tracks. The event was hosted between February 15th- 18th.

We had over 2500 people tune in to the conference from all over the world, and our special interest group was educators and professional counsellors/

therapists taking advantage of the treasure-trove of information from the trenches of research. Did you miss it? Don't worry, there are perks for hosting the event online!

We are bringing you the entire conference package (all 28 talks+bonus material) to you at the pre-conference rates for you once again!

[Check out the conference here](#)



Pretty TOUGH

COME,
PUT ON YOUR CAPE.
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IN YOU EMERGE!

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UPCOMING EVENTS AT LIFE

Pretty TOUGH

Give yourself the gift of confidence, learn to lead mindfully, kick the guilt and become the best women of yourself. All this through fun activities in a non-judgemental space!

Date and time will be announced shortly.

Team The Life India wishes everyone a very Happy Holi.