

COMMUNITY: AN EXTENSION OF LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

by:

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Learning is a cycle that has no end. It occurs everywhere, at any time, and in any situation that explains that learning acquisition is not limited to the four corners of the classroom. It considers as person's active engagement with different experiences to properly manipulate objects and conversation to build mental models of the world. Learning occurs in a complex social environment and should not be examined or perceived primarily on an individual level. Instead, consider learning to be a social activity involving people, the objects they use, the words they speak, the cultural context they are in, and the actions they conduct. When learning complex ideas, learners' motivation and cognitive engagement must be sustained because considerable mental effort and persistence are required.

The importance of community in ensuring the best possible outcomes for children cannot be overstated. A community fosters belonging, a sense of identity, and learning; encourages active participation in the world and the continuity of learning; and connects children and families to supportive relationship and resource networks. Participation in the community is beneficial in all aspects of life. We see the effects in the workplace and company culture, as well as in schools, towns, and small businesses all over the world. When we consider the benefits of community involvement in early childhood, we may find one of the most profound and inspiring examples of how it impacts our society. Children develop emotionally, intellectually, and physically as a result of their relationships and their community. This community could be found at school or at home, on the playground or in the backyard. Children benefit from community involvement and engagement in their lives in the long run. It provides them with a sense of belonging

and is critical to the development of their identity. A sense of community is defined as a state of fellowship with other people a result of sharing common attitudes, interests, and aspirations. For children, a sense of community connects them to their surroundings as well as the individuals in those surroundings, which further connects them to their own unique place in the world.

Children are given the opportunity to form relationships within their communities that support their emotional and physical development and help them succeed in life. The beauty of being a part of the creation of a community is that these events and experiences eventually lead to the formation of meaningful relationships. These relationships must become a regular part of the child's life and must be nurtured consistently over time.

When children feel accepted and understood by adults, they begin to accept themselves. This positive reinforcement pervades their behaviors and can result in a lifetime of happiness and mental strength. There is a very strong correlation between how children feel about themselves and how they act – and the same is true for adults. As a result, if we approach ourselves and our community with confidence, we are better equipped to instill confidence in children. Whether you approach your own connection to community involvement and the development of children as a parent, a guardian, a friend, a grandparent, or a teacher – every point of connection matters. Every connected dot contributes to a stronger, healthier, happier, and more well-rounded society as a whole. Every positive impact on the playground, in the garden, at school, or at the community center causes a change and has an impact on our entire society.

Children develop their self-awareness with a built-in relationship in the standard context of the community. Relationships engage children in the human community, allowing them to identify who they are, what they can be, and how they make a difference to others. Identity is a solid foundation for children's social and emotional development, as well as their sense of self-determination. Participation in a community encourages

learners to contribute to their environment. Children can observe, engage, understand, and actively contribute to their expanding world by having everyday experiences and participating with the people and places of a community. This inspires children to live interdependently with others, make decisions, and wield power. The ability to participate in various communities – a key component of citizenship – assists young children in responding to diversity and becoming socially responsible.

References:

<https://teaching.berkeley.edu/resources/learn/what-learning>

<https://www.all4kids.org/news/blog/benefits-of-community-involvement-in-early-childhood/#:~:text=Children%20grow%20in%20the%20context%20of%20>