

Educational Agility

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Educational agility is a term I coined a couple years ago and I believe it is a thought that needs to be addressed in a time where quality employment is defined by educational qualifications that most in American society lack. This has made 21st century employment opportunities finite.

But it doesn't have to be this way for anyone. How parents begin their education with their children at birth will substantially increase their child's chance to become a player in this 21st century global economy that is ever changing. Being agile is maybe the most important educational tool you can have for growth. This is evident as an individual, but is readily seen within school districts that have come under aggressive competition from charter schools, online schools, the renaissance of parochial schools and elite homeschoolers, where parents of the republican wealthy believe that public schools are unfit to keep their children safe and provide that ever important connection to God. This attack on public schools is unfounded and basically unfair. Public schools in America still provide the masses with the finest teachers in the world. That doesn't mean there isn't a place for these other schooling options.

Educational agility for the parent is important because with our ever changing economy and world, employment needs of companies revolve around being a specialist, especially in the computer- tech arena. Being flexible and quick moving, along with continual educational growth is key for millennials and our school age children today. This puts more pressure on parents to have their children prepared even sooner for formal education with varied educational touches and opportunities at home soon after birth. Educational agility at home is using a varying array of resources to help jump start

your child's educational journey. This may include reading to your child in many different venues having deep discussions about all that you see in one of those given environments. Having manipulatives at home is a great way to enhance your child's educational birth especially in math. Introducing your child to computer programs that are educationally based is a fantastic way to increase their educational experience along with just having some initial computer skills that will increase as they continue to delve into their educational journey. The computer opens up the entire world and the more your child touches these educational opportunities, the faster they will master little learning targets. Early mastery of formative learning targets will increase your child's opportunity for success. This example of educational agility is important in those formative years.

Recognizing educational agility is very important. Not understanding the concept could undermine growth opportunities for your child. A parent who is aware or becomes aware of how important it is to be agile in today's world will be a great asset to their children. Educational agility may enhance formative educational opportunities in a couple of different ways. Parents, spending time on the internet researching different educational opportunities for your child is a fantastic way to educate yourself on what you can do for your child but it is also a great way to find free resources you can share with your child. Also connecting with a current or former teacher is great. Teachers will be able to provide you with key information that will either help your child directly or get you to a place where you can acquire the tools or information.

Educational agility can also be enhanced by character formation that is created at home by us as parents. Much of life's journey is initially created and continually massaged at home by those lead teachers, (parents). Character and integrity are arguably the two most important hallmarks in the formation of our children. If we are able to intertwine those ideals with all aspects of life and growth, especially

education, the better chance we may have our children being flexible and active in the formative part of their educational journey.

Without a clear understanding of educational agility, our children may not be able to compete as well with their global peers in this 21st century economy. This in turn may stagnate the next generation of entrepreneurial students. Success grows from that initial building of trust that we teach and share with our children. From this trust driven collaboration evolves confidence in self and ability which may play a role in successful moments through life's all encompassing journey.