

Five Minds for the Future

What would curriculum look like to nurture these “minds”? What would a school look like that accommodated these “minds”? FOR TEACHERS? FOR STUDENTS

Adapted from Gardner, H. (2007). Five minds for the future. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press by Gail Burnaford, Ph.D.
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The Disciplined Mind	The Synthesizing Mind	The Creating Mind	The Respectful Mind	The Ethical Mind
Takes ten years	Takes information from disparate sources, understands, evaluates, puts it together again	Breaks new ground	Welcomes difference	Considers the needs of society beyond self-interest
Identifies the important topics or concepts in a discipline	Writes narratives	Puts forth new ideas	Tries to understand others	Learns from models of ‘good work’; thrives where ‘good work’ is the norm
Works steadily over time to improve skill	Develops taxonomies	Poses unfamiliar questions	Seeks to work effectively with difference	Connects with real tasks in the community
Approaches a topic in a variety of ways so that it is better understood “conceptual agility”	Creates and uses complex concepts	Conjures fresh ways of thinking	Learns from the whole of society in and beyond the school	Sees self as citizen of the planet
Constitutes a distinctive way of thinking about the world	Uses short aphorisms	Arrives at unexpected answers	Learns from models	Engages in civil society/community
Needs feedback from coaches to pick up the distinctive habits of mind of the professional in a discipline	Explores powerful metaphors, images, and themes	Works in the public domain; needs an audience eventually	Learns from the literary, graphic, and experiential curricula	Involves abstract thinking about ‘goodness’, ‘truth’, ‘moral values’
‘Performs understanding’	Theorizes; Meta theorizes	Works in a ‘critical mass’	Learns from how adults treat each other	Learns from: <i>Mission</i>
Applies understanding before ‘graduating’	Uses images rather than words sometimes	Recognized as innovative	Need historical examples of group relations; studies of ‘teams’	<i>Models</i>
	Begins with goals; selects strategies or methods; completes drafts; seeks feedback	Explores like a five year old		<i>Mirror tests</i>
	Works in interdisciplinary manner	Thrives in a culture of ‘productive mistakes’		
		Works with technology		