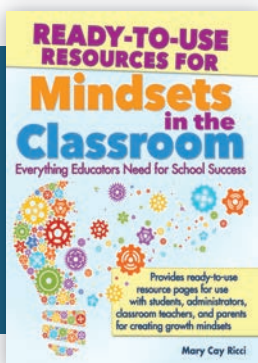


MINDSETS IN THE CLASSROOM: Building a Culture of Success and Student Achievement in Schools

AUTHOR: Mary Cay Ricci
PUBLISHER: Hawker Brownlow Education 2015



READY-TO-USE RESOURCES FOR MINDSETS IN THE CLASSROOM: Everything Educators Need for School Success

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Dr Carol Dweck and her phenomenal books *Mindset: The New Psychology of Success* and *Mindset: How You Can Fulfil Your Potential* have prompted schools, teachers and parents to look at the way we view success, intelligence and student learning. She described two mindsets- fixed and growth. Those students who have a growth mindset have a belief system that allows them to believe that they can learn anything. Here learning is the focus – where, with effort and hard work, significant growth can occur. Dweck’s work states that intelligence is not fixed from the day you were born.

Educators and parents have embraced Dweck’s work, but how do teachers really apply the theory so that it is classroom friendly and readily applicable to our work? Teachers need and want resources that they can use tomorrow and Mary Cay Ricci has very successfully taken that requirement and developed a sensational set of resources. The Ready-To-Use book is filled with resources that are classroom friendly. The tips and hints are easy to read and each chapter comes with a short description of the theory and the way that a growth mindset can be developed within the classroom right now. I flipped through the book in a short 15-minute session and found loads of ideas that I could implement in my work as Professional Learning Coordinator for Tournament of Minds.

Mindsets in the Classroom: Building a Culture of Success and Student Achievement in Schools is the theory behind the work. Ricci confidently combines Dweck’s work with an easy-to-read and understand explanation of how developing a growth mindset is achievable. The chapter on differentiation is full of an elegant combination of the theory behind differentiation and ideas on how to place the theory of growth mindset into the everyday practice of teaching and learning.

Teachers are always looking for resources that make the theory-into-practice gap manageable. We want material we can use now but we also need and want the theory that underpins all good practice. Mary Cay Ricci has successfully tackled a huge topic that all too often is not “done well” by well-meaning parents and teachers, and should help to make creating a growth mindset an integral part of our everyday practice.

REVIEWER



Geraldine Nicholas is the Professional Learning Coordinator for Tournament of Minds and co-vice president of the Victorian Association for Gifted and Talented Children (VAGTC).

Her work takes her into schools across Victoria working with teachers and students to develop TOM skills, creativity and many of the General Capabilities. Finding resources that are immediately classroom friendly and available is an important part of her ethos.