Making Space for Active Learning: The Art and Practice of Teaching

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Summary

Making Space for Active Learning: The Art and Practice of Teaching will inspire new and veteran teachers to “make space” for children’s interests, for teaching as relational and intellectual work, and for new insights and ideas. The authors introduce the Prospect Center’s Descriptive Review of Practice, a collaborative inquiry process that provides an opportunity for teachers to examine their practice and gain new perspectives from other participants. The contributors to this volume respond to each child's modes of thinking as they develop curricula or find "wiggle room" in the curriculum they are given. By demonstrating how it is possible to pursue careful knowledge of craft, this book offers ways of teaching that allow for continuing growth and change.

Making Space features:

- an inquiry methodology that assists teachers to reflect on the classroom and develop curriculum that responds to children's interests and needs
- specific examples of a variety of sources teachers can draw on and think about to improve practice
- a method of data collection that can inform practice while allowing for the unevenness, messiness and essential humanness of teaching and learning.

The teachers telling these stories have been loosely or closely associated with the Prospect Center and School, founded 1965. Their stories reflect Prospect’s vision: that human capacity, widely distributed, is plentifully and reliably present and to be counted upon – in teachers, in children, in parents, in the community.

Supporting Resources

- Tools for Promoting Active, In-Depth Learning, 2nd Edition (TC0596)