

Holistic Learning Objectives ©



Summary: School success, just like in life, requires learning that goes beyond the acquisition and repetition of content. Learning must especially ready students to use their acquired knowledge and skills. This implies two complementary aspects. One, learning must be practical, equipping students to apply their lessons to “real-world” situations and to learn new things. Two, learning must nurture the personal behaviors and attitudes that students need to function effectively and to learn lifelong. They must learn “to Know, to Do, and to Be.”¹



Learning Objectives

School learning is not just about acquiring information to succeed on tests. More importantly, it is acquiring knowledge & skills to succeed in life.

Academic / Knowledge Competencies

Mathematics

Language

Literacy

Subject-related

Other

Application Competencies

Household

Productive

Sociocultural

Environmental

Other



Students must learn to KNOW as well as to KNOW HOW & to KNOW TO BE. Learning all three prepares them better for life as well as to succeed better in school.

Personal Competencies

Learning

Problem-solving

Collaboration

Communication

Other

Application Competencies

As students learn to apply their school subjects to all aspects—material, institutional, economic, technical, operational—of the full range of “real-life” settings...

<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Child-rearing•Food preparation•Maintenance<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Chores	Household	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Health•Nutrition•Structures•Entertainment<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Etc...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Family members•Holidays		<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Furnishings•Hygiene•Clothing

<ul style="list-style-type: none">•What produce•Techniques<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Steps•Relations / Cooperation	Productive	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Clientele•Where & how sell•Motivation<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Etc...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Sources of inputs•Workers•Agriculture		<ul style="list-style-type: none">•History•Plans•Where & how learn

<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Holidays•Religion•Politics•Traditional medicine	Sociocultural	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Traditional leadership•Arts / Crafts•Dress•Etc...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Games / Entertainment•Gender roles•Customs		<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Music / Dance•Local history

<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Climate / Weather•Water sources•Forests•Terrain	Environmental	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Wild animals•Domestic animals•Conservation<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Etc...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Disasters•Erosion•Pollution•Threats		<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Geology•Soils•Human impacts

Other

...they will be better prepared for life & will learn the school subjects better & with greater motivation.

Competencies

As students cultivate their personal skills, they simultaneously get ready for life...

Personal

- Curiosity
- Confidence
- Risk Tolerance & Management
- Creativity
- Kindness
- Ambition
- Respectfulness
- Empathy
- Perseverance ("Grit")
- ...

... while they also become more successful in their studies.

Learning

- Reading & Writing
- Organization
- Research
- Inquiry
- Observation
- Experimentation
- Discovery
- ...

Problem-Solving

- Reasoning
- Analogy
- Organization
- Comparison
- Assessment
- Critical thinking
- Judgment
- ...

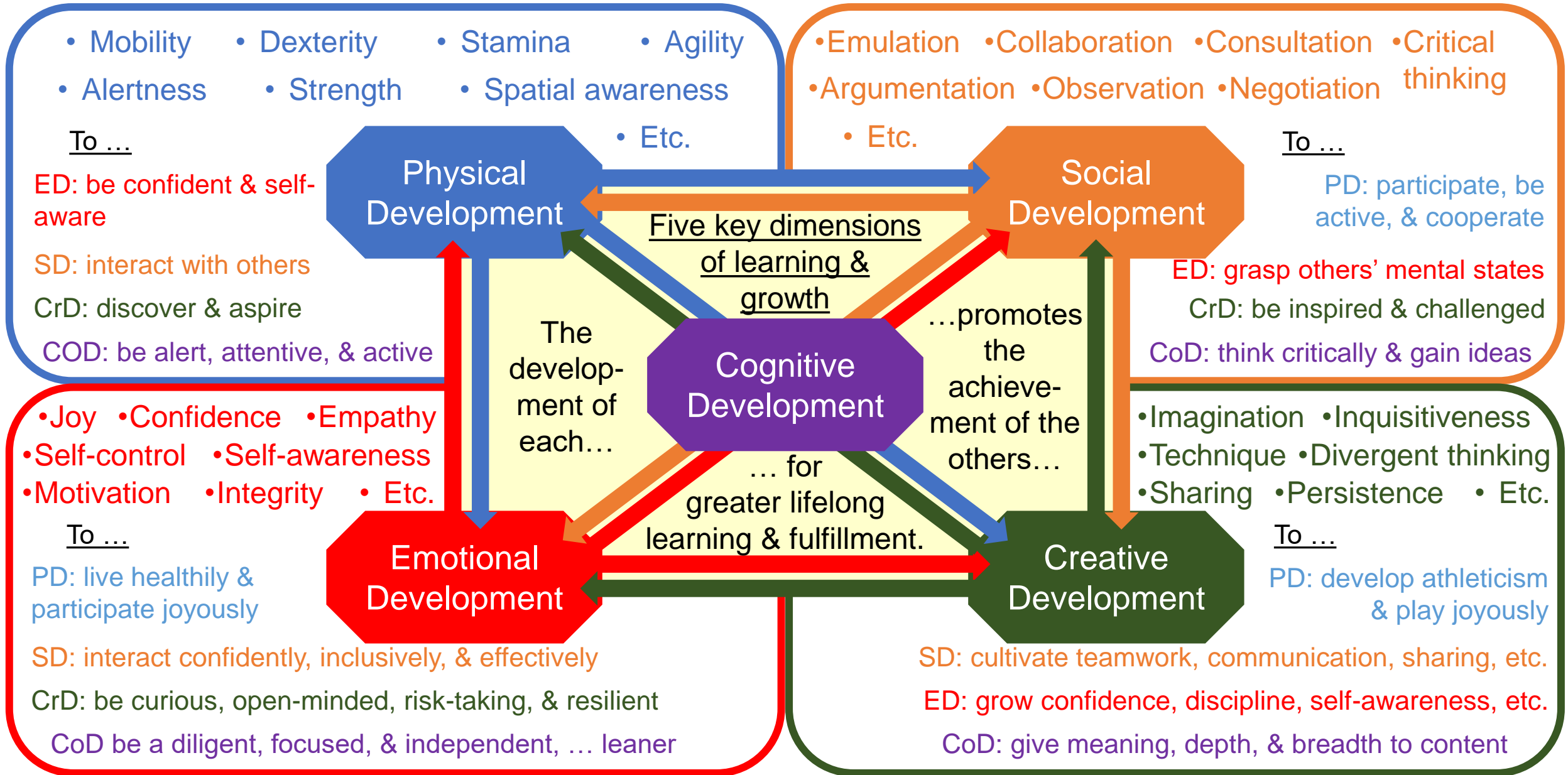
Teamwork

- Negotiation
- Leadership
- Listening
- "Follower-ship"
- Clarity
- Conflict resolution
- Planning
- ...

Communication

- Listening
- Debate & dialogue
- Questioning
- Writing & Speaking
- Graphic representation
- ...

Holistic Learning: Five Interactive Dimensions



Fitting All 3 Objectives Into a Single Lesson: Application

Mathematics: counting & calculations of...

- Market purchases
- Medicine dosages
- Time & dates
- Distances, to & from
- Cooking measurements
- Costs of making things
- Shapes in nature & the built environment
- Games
- Sizes & numbers of objects
- Surveys of attitudes & experiences; Etc...

E.g.: Addition

- Adding the prices of items bought at the market
- Calculating amount of inputs to build a structure
- Planning time required for a trip, with many stops
- Preparing a feast, totaling all the things to get
- Taking an inventory of local agricultural production
- Calculate the income of the class "store"

Language/Reading, to communicate & learn

- Words for things in life
- Questions to ask resource persons
- Reading on topics of interest to students
- Reporting on events & relevant things learned;
- Awareness campaigns, via plays, songs, posters,...
- Debates; Etc...

E.g.: language & writing

- Prepare flash cards for local institutions & civic roles
- Write a story about an event that occurred at home
- Create a poster of tools, materials, & products from some local trade or other productive activity
- Write down questions to ask a local resource person

Physical & Social Sciences, analysis & experiments

- Properties, uses, & cultivation of local plants
- Location, conditions, & interactions with water
- Food, cooking, nutrition
- Natural environment
- Local productive activities
- Traditional institutions, customs, & practices
- Modern institutions & roles
- Livestock practices
- Hygiene & health; Etc...

E.g.: the local environment

- Identify local pollution, all types, & prepare a poster
- Devise & conduct experiments on the quality of water from different sources
- Interview elders on how Nature has changed since their childhood; write as a story
- Measure plants' growth with different input amounts

Fitting All 3 Objectives Into a Single Lesson: Personal

Personal Competencies

- Identify with students the positive traits of each PC
- Assess students for each PC & agree how to improve
- Promote self & peer assessment of each PC

Learning

- Assign problems that require students to do research
- Create experiments for students to form conclusions
- Let students pick a topic to research; then plan & do

Problem-Solving

- Assign tasks that require trial & error; give time for this
- Assign problems for which there is not 1 right answer
- Ask students to compare & contrast, & defend views

Teamwork

- Assign tasks for students to do together in class
- Assign projects for students to do together outside
- Allow students to choose, plan, & do tasks & projects

Communication

- Students write results of their research & experiments
- Students report orally on what they learned/did
- Students share findings using their creativity

Etc.