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- Hook
- Definition and Variants
- Timeline of Theorists
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Constructivism

An Analysis of a Learning Theory

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accommodation

progess

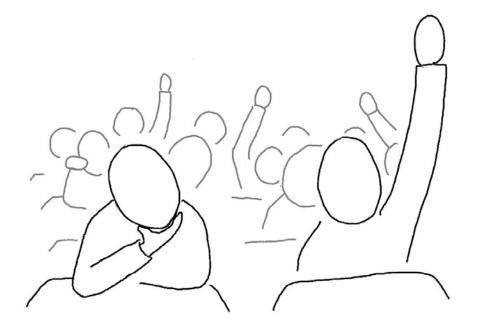
information



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Constructivism

Attempts explain learning as series of experiences that are applied in context to previous experiences.



Key Variants

Social Constructivism

- emphasis on culture

Radical Constructivism

- scientifically constructed reality

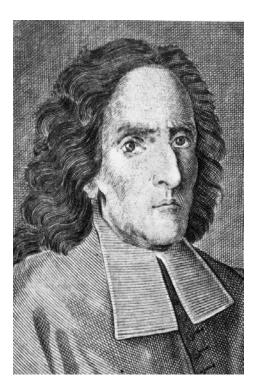
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Theorists Timeline

Giovanni Battista Vico (1668-1744)



Published a treatise on the construction of knowledge in 1710.

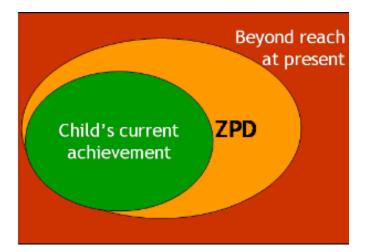
The treatise presented the idea that knowledge is something that is constructed by the knower.

"The human mind can only know what the human mind has made."

Lev Vygotsky (1896-1934)

"Zone of Proximal Development" (ZPD).

Common sense idea of "stretching learners".



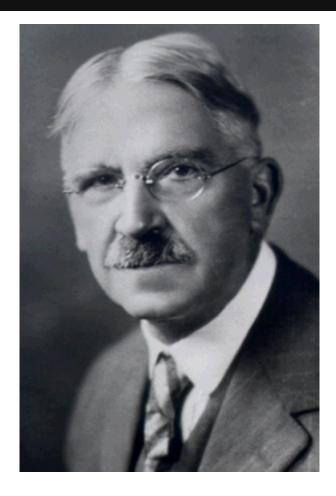


John Dewey (1859-1952)

Rejected repetitive memorization and proposed "directed living"

Education required real experience in a social setting

"If you have doubts about how learning happens, engage in sustained inquiry: study, ponder, consider alternative possibilities and arrive at your belief grounded in evidence."



Jean Piaget (1896 - 1980)



Piaget's theory of cognitive development

Founded the International Center of Genetic Epistemology (1955)

Continued to pioneer learning theories

Received multiple honorary doctorates i.e. Yale (1970)

Ernst von Glasersfeld (1917 – 2010)

Prominent proponent of radical constructivism

Based on two premises: knowledge is not passively received, but actively constructed by people; and the purpose of human constructions is adaptive, not representational



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Impact

Impact

Constructivism today is used at higher education levels. Hands on learning approach Learning by experience i.e. TCO 341 final project Prior knowledge essential for highest impact

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Summary

Summary

Basic idea: Learning is an active, constructive process.

Learner viewed as: Information constructor.

People actively construct or create their own subjective representations of objective reality. New information is linked to prior knowledge, thus mental representations are subjective.

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Questions