Embracing the Educational Value of Imitation

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Embracing the Educational Value of Imitation

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Social cognitive theory

Observational learning based on the actions of models (Bandura)

Pedagogical popularity: Antiquity to Renaissance

The instinct of imitation is implanted in man from childhood – Aristotle

- Quintilian: learn from others’ work to have a base knowledge for use later and to build on
- Other supporters include Isocrates and Cicero
- Later used by Augustine and Erasmus
Pedagogical doubt: Enlightenment

_Learning is nothing but imitation_

–Kant

• Locke: concerns about authenticity
• Rousseau: concerns about artifice
Pedagogical decline: 19th century to present

All good things which exist are the fruits of originality
– John Stuart Mill

It is better to fail in originality than to succeed in imitation
– Herman Melville
In disciplines

- Art
  - Homage, pastiche, remix
- Computer science
  - Collaboration, open source
- Law
  - Precedent


blog.encyclopediavirginia.org

github.com

imgfave.com
Calls for revival


When it matters

[The student] has to learn to speak our language
– Bartholomae

• Entrance to college
• Transition to specific discipline
• Entrance to the workplace
Patchwriting ≠ Plagiarism

• Moore Howard: Patchwriting represents a necessary and productive step in students’ entrée into academic discourse

• Call for “decriminalization” has gained broader support

• Shared vocabulary

• Entrée to disciplinary communities
Artifacts, vocabulary, moves

Jennifer Gaither/Slideshare.net

Introduction

Charles Darwin is naturalized around 1830s that discovered the theory of evolution. It is a theory of evolution arrived before him to imagine around the world. The theory of evolution that occurred to him himself is the finches that he first discovered in South America, and then found many species at many different places. As a naturalist, Darwin brought many of these finches back to his lab and did a study on it. In that case he found that there were some similarities, but that their beaks were different. After many years of studying he understood that the finches' beaks were formed if Darwin was based on their environment, and the food that they found them. He then drew out the "tree of life" that each species was a point where there was a selection and each species were the starting point of developing into different species. However, that is how the process of evolution is which is processed by the process of Natural Selection. (See chart handed out)

Evolution and Natural Selection

Evolution is the changes in the characteristic of population from one generation to the next which leads to the formation of new species. A species is an adaptable entity that are fit, because the process of selection does not help them to survive. Evolution is a process that is called Natural Selection, which is the process which organisms in a population that have physical or behavioral traits that better suit them to their current environment are more likely to reproduce and passes this trait onto the next generation. (See chart handed out)

Dana stated that Natural Selection is a process in four steps:
1. Species produce sexually for offsprings of the same species.
2. There is competition in selected traits among unique organisms within population.
3. There is a struggle for survival. Some organisms will survive and reproduce more, some will die and reproduction in any final environment.
4. Organisms with traits better suited to their environment (adapted) tend to survive and reproduce more successfully than the other organism. This is natural selection or balancing the fittest.
5. The favorable traits which are necessary to survive and reproduce become more common in each successive generation and are selected for. Traits in a population that change over time, this is evolution. (See flow chart)

Natural selection is a long-term process that does not happen in one generation but many generations. It is selecting the fittest genes to reproduce and then increase its population. As environments are changing, the animals have survival by specific characteristics to be able to survive this might be because of the foundation, the temperature, or the lack of water, which requires...
Additional references

