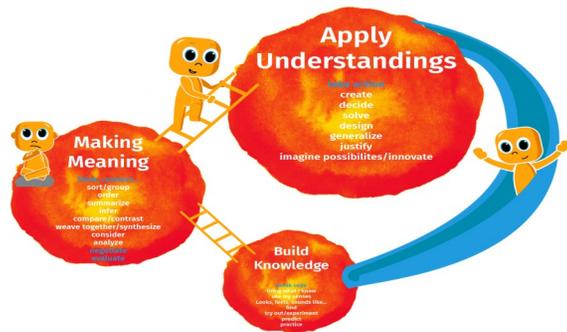


Key Principles of the Learning Pit and Learner Powers

We are all capable of becoming better learners. The Learning Pit and Learner Powers are about helping students help themselves.

- ◆ Encourages children and teachers to become better learners.
- ◆ Allows children to approach difficulties in learning without fear of failure.
- ◆ Allows children to take small steps within learning.
- ◆ Develops confidence.
- ◆ Is not additional to teaching but is integrated within everyday teaching and learning.
- ◆ Gives clear labels for the children to use to develop understanding of the learning process.



The learning pit and learner powers help students know how to behave intelligently when you do not know the answer or are 'stuck'. Parents should be educated in the Riverview language of learning, so that the home and school can share in the same expectations.

How can you help at home?

Draw attention to, and model, positive learning habits!

- ◆ Demonstrate/model sticking to things even if they are difficult.
- ◆ Talk about how you feel when you are faced with a challenge.
- ◆ Praise your child when they persevere but also encourage them to take a break when they have had enough.
- ◆ Help them find interest and activities that are really engaging.
- ◆ Talk with them about what helps them to concentrate and don't be disturbed by distractions.
- ◆ Encourage questions.
- ◆ Demonstrate making connections between different ideas.
- ◆ Don't allow your child's imagination to shrivel up...manage screen time.
- ◆ Ask them what they learned at school, not what they did at school.
- ◆ Make clear expectations for taking turns and cooperating.
- ◆ Encourage flexibility and the ability to change a plan if necessary.

Contact Us!

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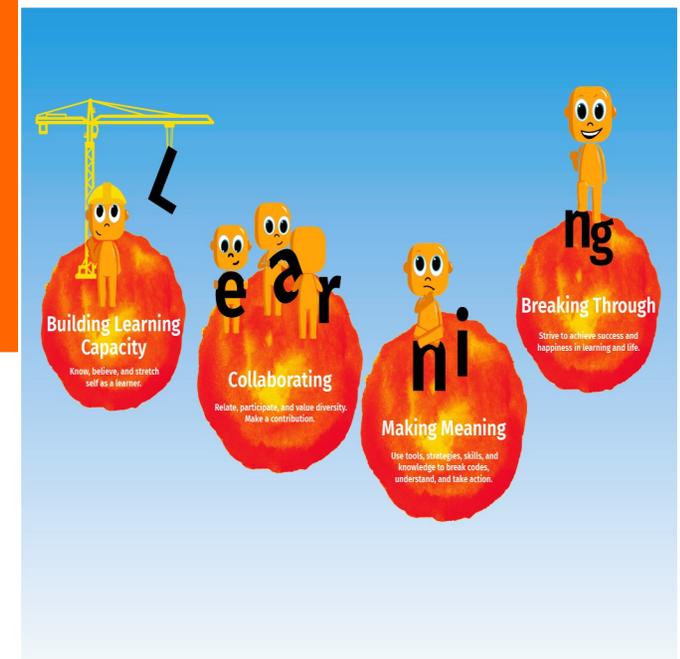
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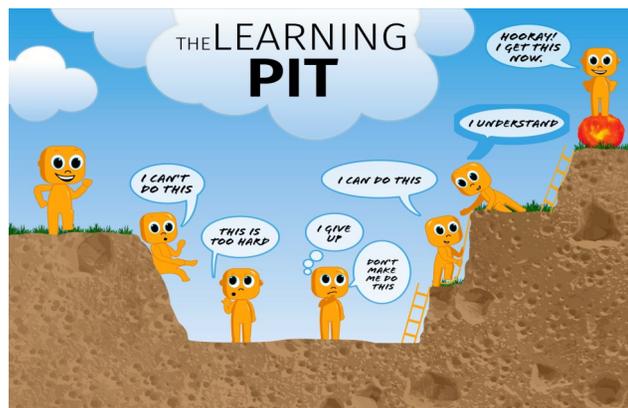


Building Learning Power...A Parents Guide

Helping students become better learners.



The Learning Pit



The learning pit is about sticking with it and embracing challenge. All learning is about feeling doubt. If you are doing something that you can already do, that isn't learning; that is practicing.

Learning is different than practicing. Learning means you step out of your comfort zone and try things that are difficult and hard.

If things are tough and you are being challenged and it is difficult, then you are in the learning pit.

If you are in the learning pit, then you are succeeding. Getting into the pit and getting stuck is a part of the learning process.

When we get stuck in our learning and we just don't know what the answer is, we use the seven learner powers to help us get out of the pit.

Finally we can break through and say, "Hooray! I get this now!"

Moving in and out of the pit is fun and that is the way we learn here at Riverview.

Why are we building Learner Power?

Just as we can build our physical muscles with the right kind of exercise, learning muscles can also be developed and can grow in strength and stamina. It is these we are aiming to develop in the children at Riverview.

It also allows us to develop a common language for learning across the school. The language is used in all classrooms, with all children. This helps everyone talk about understanding learning to learn. We hope that this understanding will begin to spill over to life outside of school, where you will be able to reinforce the ideas by encouraging the children to use their learning language in their every day lives.

The Learner Powers

Connect

I link knowledge and thinking together to create new understandings.



I am an effective and supportive team member. I am open to ideas and feedback. I collaborate.

Wonder

I have the desire to be curious about something.



I have the desire to be curious. I grapple with new or difficult ideas. I review and can identify my best work.

Be Determined

I do not give up when I am faced with a challenge.



I don't give up when faced with challenge. I stay engaged when learning is difficult. I bounce back from frustration or failure.

Be Self-Aware

I am aware of myself e.g. my actions, thoughts, strengths, weaknesses, and next steps.



I am aware of my next steps. I maintain focus despite distractions. I pay attention to details and patterns. I am engaged in learning.

Think

I have an idea, opinion, or belief about something.



I have an idea, opinion or belief in something. My thinking is logical and precise. I plan and think it through.

Question

I find out.



I find out. I ask questions that challenge thinking i.e. "What if...?" I research to find answers. I think of many possible reasons.

Reflect

I think about and look back on my learning to enable me to best move forward.



I know how my learning can move me forward. I don't worry if things go wrong. I have a growth mindset.

Three messages we say, model, organize for, and protect:

1. What we are doing here at school is important.
2. You can do hard things!
3. We are never going to give up on you.