

CCESA Ed Talk

for Coconino County Educators
Office of Innovation and Development

Upcoming Topics:

January (1/2)

Creating a culture of learners

February

Developing Student Agency

March

Teacher Agency & Support

April

Agency in Classroom Culture

May

Most Likely to Succeed!

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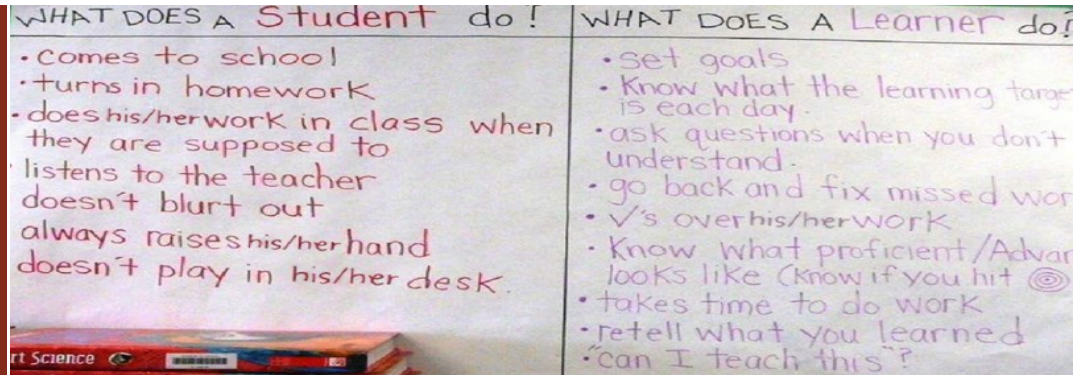


Contact Us!

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This image was taken from a classroom where the students & teacher defined the role of a student vs the role of a learner.

I have been thinking a lot lately about what makes a good student as compared to a learner. Are they the same? Can they be the same? Are they inherently different?

What is the difference between someone who comes to school and is a student versus someone who comes to school and is a learner? Which one equates to long term success in school and life (College and Career Readiness)?

What is a student? We are always pleased when we have "good" students on our roster. We typically define a "good" student as someone who is present, on task, timely, and not a discipline problem. The student takes on the role of a "good" student because of the school structures that are in place. As a teacher, I had students who were very good at school. They completed assignments, copied notes, passed tests, and ended up with good grades. However, I am not sure they remembered much beyond the final exam.

My question to you is "Do we really want a "good" student in our classroom, or do we want a learner?"

What is a learner? A **Learner** is someone who has **OPPORTUNITIES** to and is able to:

Make Meaning

- Think critically, creatively, and metacognitively
- Connect prior knowledge to new learning
- Use language symbols, and texts

Participate and Contribute

- Engage with others in learning
- Communicate ideas, feelings, perspectives, & understanding
- Relate to other people's ideas, feelings, & experiences

Manage Their Learning

- Take personal responsibility for learning
- Adapt learning Tactics
- Persevere with Challenges

A learner knows the context of their learning experience. They can reflect on their own progress and makes decisions. **It's the role of the learner to drive their own experience, not the teachers or the schools.**

Do your kids know the difference between a student and learner? Is it important to teach students how to be a learner? Is it important to develop student agency throughout our schools? What pedagogical skills do teachers need to possess and implement for a classroom culture of learners?

These may be the million dollar questions. Keep an eye out for the next CCESA ED Talk which will focus on how you can get more of our students to be learners.