How do you learn? How do children learn? We take learning for granted, yet it is an interesting process.
How Did You Learn That?

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Learning
• A mental or behavioral change that comes from experiences.

What children are learning can be seen by watching them, listening to them, and reading what they write.
Mental or Cognitive Changes

• Learning occurs when neurons connect to other neurons in the brain
• This occurs when people interact with other people, or the environment

Brain development is related to the neurons in the nervous system. Babies have many more neurons that will be needed as an adult. For neurons to survive, they must form connections to other neurons based on the infant’s experiences with the world. These “experiences” are how we learn. Neurons or extra connections that infants or children do not use are eliminated as the child develops.
For hundreds of years, people have tried to understand more about how people learn. They have developed theories based on research, observation, and testing. However, the theories about learning are not facts.
These theorists believe that children are active learners and they seek knowledge. They problem-solve and interact with the world around them and with other people.
Multiple Intelligences

- A learning theory created by: Howard Gardner
- People can be smart in many ways
- Video - Multiple Intelligences Thrive in Smartville
  At the Enota Multiple Intelligences Academy, in Gainesville, Georgia, students know exactly how they are smart.

Each of you know students who are really good in math. Others may do best in science or art or music. That is the basis of this theory. Each person has many intelligences.

Video:
Smartville is the Enota Multiple Intelligences Academy, a charter elementary school, in Gainesville, Georgia. The nickname embodies the schoolwide philosophy: At Enota, the theory that everyone possesses unique talents and aptitudes isn't just accepted and celebrated, it's an integral part of school culture. Kid-friendly labels for Howard Gardner's eight intelligences -- punchy interpretations like "word smart," "body smart," or "nature smart" -- pervade the school, appearing in hallway signs and classroom conversations. The real-world activities afforded by the school's village persona, staff members say, allow students to explore and express the multiple ways of being smart.
Remember

• People are active learners
• We learn by doing things
• We need many opportunities to use our senses to interact with the world
• There are many types of intelligences
• People learn in different ways

Students are very diverse or different. As you work with children, you need to provide many ways to learn the same concept or skill.
Presentation Notes
How Did You Learn That?

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Resources and References

Textbooks:

YouTube Video:
- Multiple Intelligences Thrive in Smartville at the Enota Multiple Intelligences Academy, in Gainesville, Georgia, students know exactly how they are smart. http://www.edutopia.org/multiple-intelligences-immersion-outes

Websites:
- Concept to Classroom
  The site features a series of FREE, self-paced workshops covering a wide variety of hot topics in education. Some of the workshops are based in theory, others are based in methodology - but all of the workshops include plenty of tips and strategies for making classroom work.
  http://www.thirteen.org/edonline/concept2class/index.html
- Edutopia
  What Works in Education
  The George Lucas Educational Foundation
  Dedicated to improving the K-12 learning process by documenting, disseminating, and advocating for innovative, replicable, and evidence-based strategies that prepare students to thrive in their future education, careers, and adult lives.
  http://www.edutopia.org

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