

RESEARCH AND THE DESIGN OF NEW LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

Richard F. Elmore Harvard University

COMPETING CONCEPTS OF LEARNING AND SCHOOLING

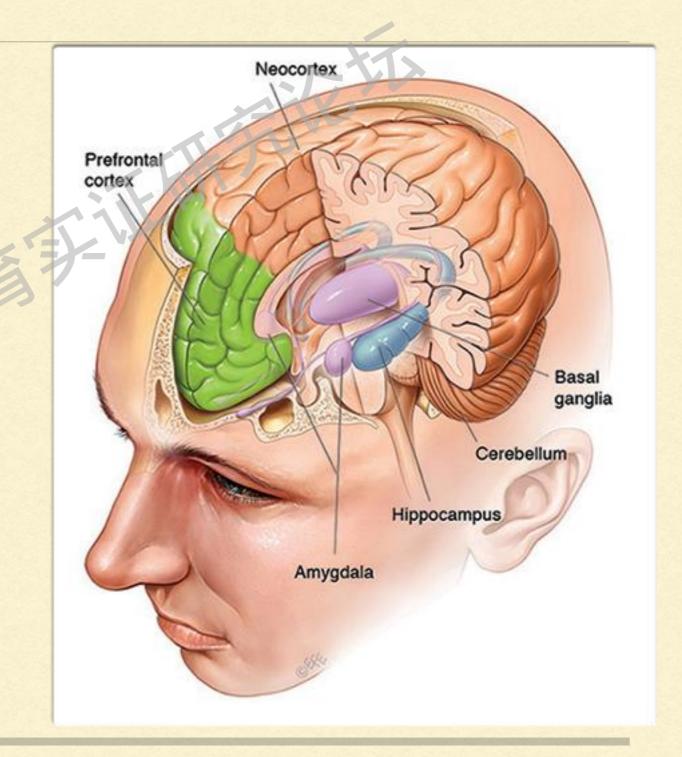
<u>Learning</u> as Accumulation of Information and Algorithms <u>Schooling</u> as Social Control and Allocation of Status <u>Assessment</u> as Determination of "Merit"

Versus

<u>Learning</u> as the Ability to Consciously Modify Beliefs, Understandings, and Actions in the Presence of Evidence, Experience, and Reflection <u>Schooling</u> as Organized Learning <u>Assessment</u> as Monitoring the Development of Learning

HOW LEARNING HAPPENS

- Experience is processed in context
- Learners form "autobiographical memories" of themselves
- Learners develop agency and control through actions, consequences, self-characterization
- Memory is transitory, malleable, active



HOW LEARNING HAPPENS: FOUR EXAMPLES

SELF-KNOWLEDGE

THE ABILITY TO ASSESS ONE'S OWN KNOWLEDGE, SKILL

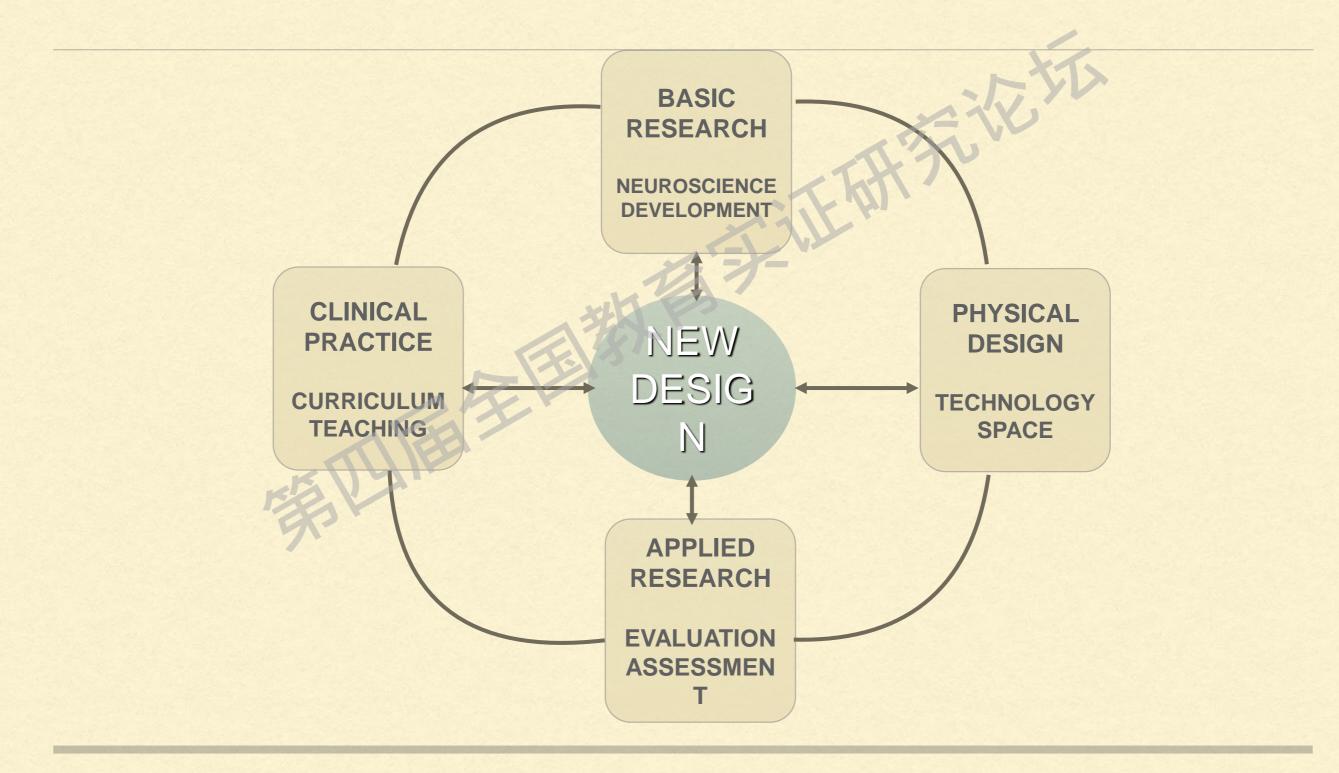
THEORY OF MIND

- THE ABILITY TO TAKE THE PERSPECTIVE OF ANOTHER
- **SELF-MANAGEMENT; EXECUTIVE FUNCTION**
 - THE ABILITY TO PLAN, EXECUTE COMPLEX ACTIONS

NEUROPLASTICITY

THE ABILITY TO MONITOR AND CONTROL ONE'S LEARNING OVER TIME

ELEMENTS OF DESIGN



WHAT THE NEW SCIENCE OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT TELLS US ABOUT THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PARENTS AND CHILDREN

THE GARDENER AND THE CARPENTER

PICADOR

ALISON GOPNIK

"This lovely book, and the life's work that animates it, will only deepen that bond [between caregiver and child], helping our children to flourish." — Erika Christakis, *The Washington Post*

INVENTING OURSELVES

The Secret Life of the

motion

Teenage Brain

SARAH-JAYNE BLAKEMORE

FOUR PRECURSORS

- NUVU STUDIO, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS
- TUTORIA, MEXICO
- BEIJING ACADEMY, BEIJING
- SELF-MANAGED LEARNING, VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA

NUVU STUDIO, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS



TUTORIA, MEXICO



BEIJING ACADEMY



SELF-MANAGED LEARNING VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA



WHAT PRECURSORS HAVE IN COMMON

- LESS IS MORE: SIMPLE, TRANSPARENT THEORIES OF LEARNING
- BELIEF THAT LEARNING IS INNATE, TEACHING IS OPTIONAL
- CURIOSITY OVER CERTAINTY
- GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY TO PRACTICE, PEOPLE WILL LEARN WHAT THEY NEED TO KNOW

ELEMENTS OF DESIGN

