

THE HIDDEN CURRICULUM

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What Should the Purpose of Education Be

- To prepare for
 - Future education/training
 - Independent living to the greatest extent possible
 - Employment
 - Relationships
- In short, to create life success

The Purpose of Special Education (IDEA)

To ensure that all children with disabilities have available to them a free appropriate public education that emphasizes special education and related services designed to meet their **unique** need and **prepare** them for **further education, employment, and independent living**

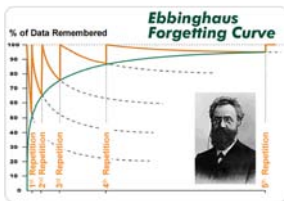
§ 300.1 (emphasis added)

From Grossman & Aspy

What Do We Teach?

- Time is limited ...
- We often focus on academics – as demonstrated
- We also don't take into account the forgetting curve

The Forgetting Curve



- People tend to forget one-half of what they learned over days or weeks if it is not actively rehearsed.

Hidden Curriculum

- The set of unwritten rules that no one has been directly taught, but everyone knows. Violations of these rules can make an individual a social outcast.
- Phrase associated with hidden curriculum:
 - "I shouldn't have to tell you but ..."
 - "Everyone knows that ..."
 - "It's obvious ..."

Implicit Learning

- Typically relies on the the different parts of the brain working together
- This is known as integration.

Schipul & Just, 2016

Implicit Learning

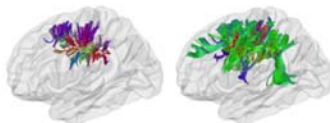
- Learning without trying to do so
- "Just picking it up"
 - "Automatically getting it"
 - "I don't know how I learned it – I just did"

Stay with me – I have a point →

Schipul & Just, 2016

Implicit Learning

- Individuals with ASD have less and different integration across brain regions



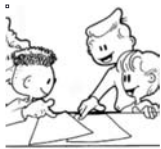
Schipul & Just, 2016

Critical Mass

- The tipping point
- The place where momentum takes over and information can be applied in multiple and multiple ways

Implicit Learning

Social Interaction



Communication



Daily Living Skills



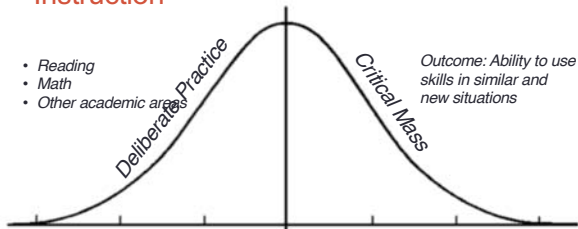
**MOST STUDENTS LEARN THE
HIDDEN CURRICULUM IMPLICITLY –
OUR STUDENTS DO NOT.**

Other Skills to Teach (just a sample)

- Central coherence
- Problem solving
- Time management
- Self-regulation
- Executive function
- Collaboration
- Conversation
- Prioritizing
- Conflict resolution
- Emotional understanding
- Flexibility
- Cause and effect
- Asking for help
- Daily living skills

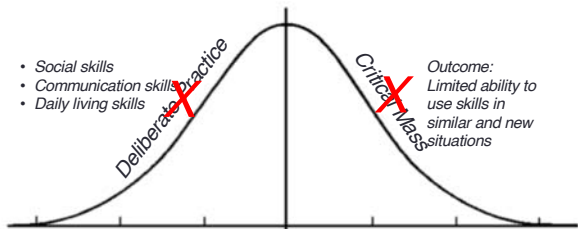
Typical School Instruction

- Reading
- Math
- Other academic areas



Typical School Instruction Albeit Limited

- Social skills
- Communication skills
- Daily living skills



Hidden Curriculum Includes



Hidden Curriculum Includes

About FACTS	About OPINIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Facts are any statements that can be proven.• Facts can be either true or false.• But facts can be proved. <p>EXAMPLES:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) There are over 700 types of igneous rocks.2) Sharks do not have a single bone in their bodies.3) There are seven inches in a foot. (false)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opinions are statements that cannot be proven.• Opinions can be argued or disagreed with.• Opinions are sometimes supported by facts. <p>EXAMPLES</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Football is the best sport.2) Hamburgers are better than hotdogs.3) The hardest subject in school is Algebra.

Hidden Curriculum Includes



Hidden Curriculum Includes

Look how instinctively, the mother croc carries the baby in its mouth. Nature is beautiful.



Hidden Curriculum

- Differs across
 - Age
 - Who you are with
 - Culture
 - Gender



The Hidden Curriculum and Culture: BRITISH AND AMERICAN ENGLISH

What the BRITISH Say	What the BRITISH Mean	What Americans Understand
I hear what you say	I disagree and do not want to discuss it further	He accepts my point of view
With the greatest respect	You are an idiot	He is listening to me
I'm sure it's my fault	It's your fault	Why do they think it is their fault?

AND HOW IMPORTANT IS CONTEXT?

The Hidden Curriculum Impacts

- Home
- School
- Community
- Job
- Legal System
- **Every Environment!!!!**



The Hidden Curriculum

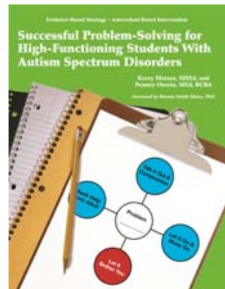
- Often includes definitions:
 - Rules (not only for games)
 - Directions (not only for driving)
 - Emergencies
 - *What exactly is an emergency?*

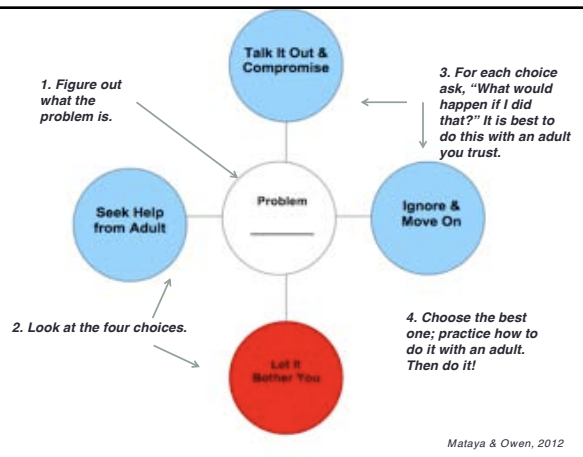
Hidden Curriculum

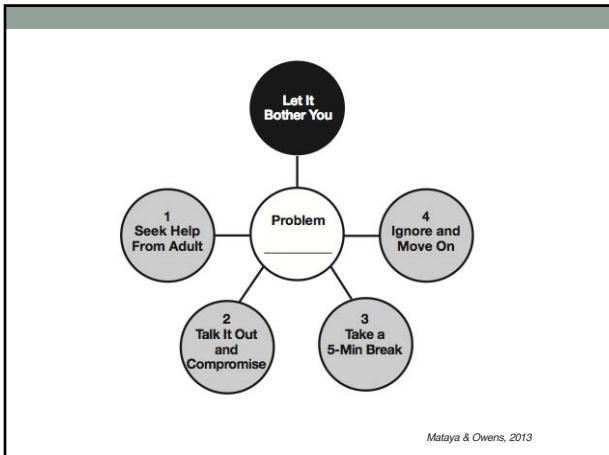
- Assumptions, expectations, the unexpected ...
 - The sort of things out kids get in trouble for
 - Teach, teach, teach
 - Penguin
 - Leprechaun

THE GREATEST PROBLEM SOLVING RUBRIC EVER

Mataya & Owens







Hidden Curriculum Items

- If one small incident occurs and the teacher corrects you, it does not mean the entire day is bad.
- You should talk to teachers in a pleasant tone of voice because they will respond to you in a more positive manner. They also like it if you smile every once in a while.

More Hidden Curriculum ...

- The goal of social skills is generally to make others feel good about themselves; it is not to make you feel good.
- A police officer is always right and should not be corrected on small details
- The posted speed limit may allow for variance.
 - HALEY in the backseat.

More Hidden Curriculum ...

- When your teacher gives you a warning about behavior and you continue the behavior, you are probably going to get in trouble. If you stop the behavior immediately after the first warning, you will probably not get in trouble.
- Do not tell other students they smell and need to wear deodorant.

More Hidden Curriculum ...

- When a teacher tells another student to stop talking, it is not a good idea to start talking to your neighbor since the teacher has already expressed disapproval of that action.
- When hearing someone speak using incorrect grammar, do not correct him every time, especially in a critical manner.

More Hidden Curriculum ...

- Not all teachers have the same rules for their class. Some teachers do not allow any talking unless you raise your hand. Others may allow talking if you are not disruptive to other students. It is important to know the rules different teachers have for their class. The rules will always change from teacher to teacher and it will not do any good to focus on the fact that it is not fair.

More Hidden Curriculum ...

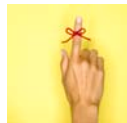
- If you do something funny, it is usually only funny once.
- Don't tell the principal that if she listened better more kids would like her.
- When someone else is getting in trouble, it is not the time to show the teacher something.

More Hidden Curriculum ...

- When you are taking a shower in group setting, do not sustain eye contact for very long or watch other people taking their shower.
- When you are with classmates/coworkers you don't know very well and you are the center of attention, do not pick your nose, pass gas or scratch an itch of a private body part.

More Hidden Curriculum ...

- Words have more than one meaning. If someone uses a word you know, but it doesn't make sense to you, please ask for clarification.



BODY LANGUAGE

CHEAT SHEET FOR WRITERS

Body Language: Cheat Sheet for Writers

ANGER



Anger

- Balling the fists
- Crossing the arms tightly
- Clenching the fists once arms are crossed
- Tight-lipped smile
- Clenched teeth
- Shaking a finger like a club
- Firmly pointing a finger at someone

CLOSED TO CONVERSATION



Closed to Conversation

- Keeping hands in the pockets
 - Especially men
- Arms crossed
- Sitting back
- Folding hands together on a table to create a barrier
- “Figure-four” leg cross

cont

Closed to Conversation: Figure Four Leg Cross



DISTRESS



Distress

- Stroking or rubbing neck (especially men)
 - Think "pain in the neck"
- Crossed arms
 - Self-hugging
 - One-arm cross
- Clutching a purse, briefcase, or bag with both arms

cont

Distress

- Adjusting cuffs or cuff-links
- Folding the hands together in front of the crotch (men)

Lying

- Covering the mouth
 - Shhh gesture
 - Covering mouth similar to coughing
- Touching or rubbing the nose or just below the nose
 - Quick, small gesture; not a scratch

cor

LYING



Lying

- Rubbing the eyes (especially men)
- Scratching the neck with the index finger
- Averting gaze

Body Language: Cheat Sheet for Writers

OPENNESS AND HONEST



Openness and Honesty

- Exposure of the palms
- Arms and legs unfolded
- Leaning forward

SUBMISSIVE



Submissive

- Smiling
 - Some people smile when they are upset or afraid
- Slumping the shoulders
- Doing anything to appear smaller

SUPERIORITY, CONFIDENCE, POWER AND DOMINANCE



Superiority, Confidence, Power and Dominance

- Steepling the fingers (setting the tips of fingers together)
- Folding hands behind the back
- Thumbs sticking out of pockets (front OR back pockets)
- Hands on hips

cont

Superiority, Confidence, Power and Dominance

- Straddling a chair
- Hands folded behind head while sitting up (in men)
- Rolling eyes

Body Language: Cheat Sheet for Writers

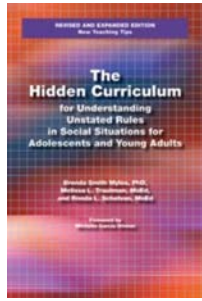
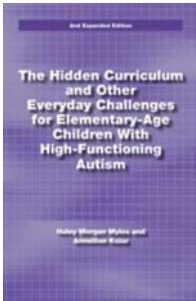
More Hidden Curriculum ...

- New things are often difficult to learn. This is not unusual. Sometimes you may require help from someone. That does not mean that you are not smart.

Other Hidden Curriculum Areas

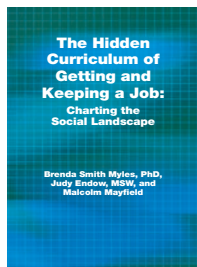
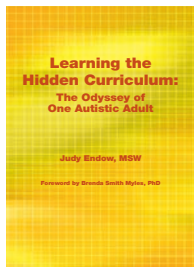
- Airplane/airport
- Friends
- Eating
- Public/private swimming pools
- School rules
- Bathroom/shower/locker room

Resources to Teach the Hidden Curriculum



+ there is a video!

Resources to Teach the Hidden Curriculum



Social Rules for Kids

The Top 100 Social Rules Kids Need to Succeed

Sue Diamond, M.A., CCC

Illustrated by Sally Blakemore



Social Rules for Kids:
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