



John Dewey

(1859-1952)

“I believe that education is a process of living and not a preparation for future living.” In “My Pedagogic Creed” (Archimbault 430)

A renowned philosopher of science, the theory of knowledge, aesthetics, metaphysics, ethical and social theory, education and beyond.

Life Line

- ÷ 1859, October 20--Born in Burlington, Vermont
- ÷ 1897--Graduated from University of Vermont
- ÷ 1897--Taught High School for 2 years
- ÷ 1884--Graduated from Johns Hopkins University with a Doctorate Degree in Philosophy
- ÷ 1884--Accepted a position at the University of Michigan: Instructor and assistant professor of philosophy
- ÷ 1886--Married Alice Chipman
- ÷ 1894--Accepted a position at the University of Chicago: The chairman of the Department of Philosophy, Psychology, and Pedagogy
- ÷ 1896--Founded and directed a Laboratory School at Chicago University
- ÷ 1930--Retired from active teaching
- ÷ 1952, June 2--Died at the age of 92 in New York City

A Brief Selection of John Dewey's Works on Education

My Pedagogic Creed (1897)	How We Think (1910; revised ed 1933)
School and Society (1899)	Democracy and Education (1916)
Elementary School Teacher IV (1903)	Progressive Education (1928)

Quotes from John Dewey

- , I believe that school is primarily a social institution. “My Pedagogic Creed” (Archimbault 430)
- , I believe that school must represent present life--life as real and vital to the child as that which he carries on in the home, in the neighborhood, or on the playground. (430)
- , What does democracy mean save that the individual is to have a share in determining the conditions and the aims of his own work; and that upon the whole, through the free and mutual harmonizing of different individuals, the work of the world is better done than when planned, arranged, and directed by a few, no matter how wise or of how good intent that few? *Elementary School Teacher, IV* (Dewey 120)
- , What nutrition and reproduction are to physiological life, education is to social life. *Democracy and Education* (Dewey 130)

For Teachers

- , The educator’s part in the enterprise of education is to furnish the environment which stimulates responses and directs the learner’s course.” *Democracy and Education* (Dewey 134)
- , Utilizing of interest and habit to make of it something fuller, wider, something more refined and under better control, might be defined as the teacher’s whole duty.” *Educational Essays* (Dewey 134)

Bibliography

- < Archambault, Reginald D. *John Dewey on Education, Selected Writings*. The Modern Library, New York, Random House, 1964.
- < Dewey, John. *Dictionary of Education*. Philosophical Library, New York. 1959.
- < Field, Richard. “John Dewey”. *The Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. 1996.
<http://www.utm.edu/research/iep/d/dewey.htm>