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MOTIVATION MATH

LEVEL 6

HOW PEOPLE LEARN

BRAIN, MIND, EXPERIENCE, AND SCHOOL: EXPANDED EDITION

National Academies Press First released in the Spring of 1999, How People Learn has been expanded to show how the theories and insights from the original book can translate into actions and practice, now making a real connection between classroom activities and learning behavior. This edition includes far-reaching suggestions for research that could increase the impact that classroom teaching has on actual learning. Like the original edition, this book offers exciting new research about the mind and the brain that provides answers to a number of compelling questions. When do infants begin to learn? How do experts learn and how is this different from non-experts? What can teachers and schools do-with curricula, classroom settings, and teaching methods--to help children learn most effectively? New evidence from many branches of science has significantly added to our understanding of what it means to know, from the neural processes that occur during learning to the influence of culture on what people see and absorb. How People Learn examines these findings and their implications for what we teach, how we teach it, and how we assess what our children learn. The book uses exemplary teaching to illustrate how approaches based on what we now know result in in-depth learning. This new knowledge calls into question concepts and practices firmly entrenched in our current education system. Topics include: How learning actually changes the physical structure of the brain. How existing knowledge affects what people notice and how they learn. What the thought processes of experts tell us about how to teach. The amazing learning potential of infants. The relationship of classroom learning and everyday settings of community and workplace. Learning needs and opportunities for teachers. A realistic look at the role of technology in education.

WORKING MOTHER

The magazine that helps career moms balance their personal and professional lives.

POPULAR SCIENCE

Popular Science gives our readers the information and tools to improve their technology and their world. The core belief that Popular Science and our readers share: The future is going to be better, and science and technology are the driving forces that will help make it better.

RESOURCES IN EDUCATION

TRANSFORMING THE WORKFORCE FOR CHILDREN BIRTH THROUGH AGE 8

A UNIFYING FOUNDATION

National Academies Press Children are already learning at birth, and they develop and learn at a rapid pace in their early years. This provides a critical foundation for lifelong progress, and the adults who provide for the care and the education of young children bear a great responsibility for their health, development, and learning. Despite the fact that they share the same objective - to nurture young children and secure their future success - the various practitioners who contribute to the care and the education of children from birth through age 8 are not acknowledged as a workforce unified by the common knowledge and competencies needed to do their jobs well. Transforming the Workforce for Children Birth Through Age 8 explores the science of child development, particularly looking at implications for the professionals who work with children. This report examines the current capacities and practices of the workforce, the settings in which they work, the policies and infrastructure that set qualifications and provide professional learning, and the government agencies and other funders who support and oversee these systems. This book then makes recommendations to improve the quality of professional practice and the practice environment for care and education professionals. These detailed recommendations create a blueprint for action that builds on a unifying foundation of child development and early learning, shared knowledge and competencies for care and education professionals, and principles for effective professional learning. Young children thrive and learn best when they have secure, positive relationships with adults who are knowledgeable about how to support their development and learning and are responsive to their individual progress. Transforming the Workforce for Children Birth Through Age 8 offers guidance on system changes to improve the quality of professional practice, specific actions to improve professional learning systems and workforce development, and research to continue to build the knowledge base in ways that will directly advance and inform future actions. The recommendations of this book provide an opportunity to improve the quality of the care and the education that children receive, and ultimately improve outcomes for children.

CREATIVE CURRICULUM

Delmar Pub The Creative Curriculum comes alive! This videotape-winner of the 1989 Silver Apple Award at the National Educational Film and Video Festival-demonstrates how teachers set the stage for learning by creating a dynamic well-organized environment. It shows children involved in seven of the interest areas in the The Creative Curriculum and explains how they learn in each area. Everyone conducts in-service training workshops for staff and parents or who teaches early childhood education courses will find the video an indispensable tool for explainin appropriate practice.

THE KNOWLEDGE GAP

THE HIDDEN CAUSE OF AMERICA'S BROKEN EDUCATION SYSTEM-- AND HOW TO FIX IT

*Penguin The untold story of the root cause of America's education crisis--and the seemingly endless cycle of multigenerational poverty. It was only after years within the education reform movement that Natalie Wexler stumbled across a hidden explanation for our country's frustrating lack of progress when it comes to providing every child with a quality education. The problem wasn't one of the usual scapegoats: lazy teachers, shoddy facilities, lack of accountability. It was something no one was talking about: the elementary school curriculum's intense focus on decontextualized reading comprehension "skills" at the expense of actual knowledge. In the tradition of Dale Russakoff's *The Prize* and Dana Goldstein's *The Teacher Wars*, Wexler brings together history, research, and compelling characters to pull back the curtain on this fundamental flaw in our education system--one that fellow reformers, journalists, and policymakers have long overlooked, and of which the general public, including many parents, remains unaware. But *The Knowledge Gap* isn't just a story of what schools have gotten so wrong--it also follows innovative educators who are in the process of shedding their deeply ingrained habits, and describes the rewards that have come along: students who are not only excited to learn but are also acquiring the knowledge and vocabulary that will enable them to succeed. If we truly want to fix our education system and unlock the potential of our neediest children, we have no choice but to pay attention.*

LEARNER-CENTERED TEACHING

FIVE KEY CHANGES TO PRACTICE

John Wiley & Sons In this much needed resource, Maryellen Weimer-one of the nation's most highly regarded authorities on effective college teaching-offers a comprehensive work on the topic of learner-centered teaching in the college and university classroom. As the author explains, learner-centered teaching focuses attention on what the student is learning, how the student is learning, the conditions under which the student is learning, whether the student is retaining and applying the learning, and how current learning positions the student for future learning. To help educators accomplish the goals of learner-centered teaching, this important

book presents the meaning, practice, and ramifications of the learner-centered approach, and how this approach transforms the college classroom environment. *Learner-Centered Teaching* shows how to tie teaching and curriculum to the process and objectives of learning rather than to the content delivery alone.

DISTANCE EDUCATION FOR TEACHER TRAINING

Routledge First published in 2002. Routledge is an imprint of Taylor & Francis, an informa company.

THE INNER GAME OF TENNIS

THE CLASSIC GUIDE TO THE MENTAL SIDE OF PEAK PERFORMANCE

Random House Master your game from the inside out! With more than 800,000 copies sold since it was first published thirty years ago, this phenomenally successful guide has become a touchstone for hundreds of thousands of people. Not just for tennis players, or even just for athletes in general, this handbook works for anybody who wants to improve his or her performance in any activity, from playing music to getting ahead at work. W. Timothy Gallwey, a leading innovator in sports psychology, reveals how to • focus your mind to overcome nervousness, self-doubt, and distractions • find the state of “relaxed concentration” that allows you to play at your best • build skills by smart practice, then put it all together in match play Whether you're a beginner or a pro, Gallwey's engaging voice, clear examples, and illuminating anecdotes will give you the tools you need to succeed. “Introduced to *The Inner Game of Tennis* as a graduate student years ago, I recognized the obvious benefits of [W. Timothy] Gallwey's teachings. . . . Whether we are preparing for an inter-squad scrimmage or the National Championship Game, these principles lie at the foundation of our program.”—from the Foreword by Pete Carroll

EFFECTIVE TECHNIQUES TO MOTIVATE MATHEMATICS INSTRUCTION

Routledge *Effective Techniques to Motivate Mathematics Instruction* offers pre-and in-service teachers best practices and techniques that can be used to motivate students in the first few minutes of any lesson in mathematics. Veteran teacher educators Posamentier and Krulik show how a bit of creativity and planning up front pays back by enabling a successful lesson on even the most challenging mathematics topic. Organized around nine different motivational techniques, each chapter includes a variety of illustrative examples of how the technique may be applied. Designed to complement any methods textbook, this practical, accessible guide helps future math teachers ease the transition from successful student to successful teacher by developing the tools needed to create motivational introductions in their classes.

CLASSROOM DISCUSSIONS IN MATH

A TEACHER'S GUIDE FOR USING TALK MOVES TO SUPPORT THE

COMMON CORE AND MORE, GRADES K-6

Math Solutions Publications Classroom Discussions in Math: A Teacher's Guide for Using Talk Moves to Support the Common Core and More offers an award-winning, unparalleled look at the significant role that classroom discussions can play in teaching mathematics and deepening students' mathematical understanding and learning. Based on a four-year research project funded by the U.S. Department of Education, this resource is divided into three sections: Section I: Getting Started: Mathematics Learning with Classroom Discussions Section II: The Mathematics: What Do We Talk About? Section III: Implementing Classroom Discussions This multimedia third edition continues to emphasize the talk moves and tools that teachers can use to facilitate whole-class discussions that deepen students' mathematical understanding. New to This Edition 46 video clips from every grade, kindergarten through sixth, show students and teachers engaged in successful classroom discussions. Some video clips are new to *Classroom Discussions in Math*; others are all-time favorites selected from *Classroom Discussions in Math: A Facilitator's Guide to Support Professional Learning of Discourse and the Common Core* support for teaching with the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics Try This Lesson sections offer specific mathematics problems, questions, and more than twenty lesson plans ready for immediate use in the classroom (downloads provided upon purchasing this resource) Math Talk Tips highlight strategies for using specific talk moves, tools, and formats to develop students' mathematical learning The DVD The accompanying DVD organizes forty-six video clips by chapter and by grade level for viewing convenience. The clips range from one to nine minutes in length with a total viewing time of approximately two hours and twenty-six minutes.

GRADING FOR EQUITY

WHAT IT IS, WHY IT MATTERS, AND HOW IT CAN TRANSFORM SCHOOLS AND CLASSROOMS

Corwin Press “Joe Feldman shows us how we can use grading to help students become the leaders of their own learning and lift the veil on how to succeed. . . . This must-have book will help teachers learn to implement improved, equity-focused grading for impact.” --Zaretta Hammond, Author of *Culturally Responsive Teaching & The Brain Crack* open the grading conversation Here at last—and none too soon—is a resource that delivers the research base, tools, and courage to tackle one of the most challenging and emotionally charged conversations in today’s schools: our inconsistent grading practices and the ways they can inadvertently perpetuate the achievement and opportunity gaps among our students. With *Grading for Equity*, Joe Feldman cuts to the core of the conversation, revealing how grading practices that are accurate, bias-resistant, and motivational will improve learning, minimize grade inflation, reduce failure rates, and become a lever for creating stronger teacher-student relationships and more caring classrooms. Essential reading for schoolwide and individual book study or for student advocates, *Grading for Equity* provides A critical historical backdrop, describing how our inherited system of grading was originally set up as a sorting mechanism to provide or deny opportunity, control

students, and endorse a “fixed mindset” about students’ academic potential—practices that are still in place a century later A summary of the research on motivation and equitable teaching and learning, establishing a rock-solid foundation and a “true north” orientation toward equitable grading practices Specific grading practices that are more equitable, along with teacher examples, strategies to solve common hiccups and concerns, and evidence of effectiveness Reflection tools for facilitating individual or group engagement and understanding As Joe writes, “Grading practices are a mirror not just for students, but for us as their teachers.” Each one of us should start by asking, “What do my grading practices say about who I am and what I believe?” Then, let’s make the choice to do things differently . . . with *Grading for Equity* as a dog-eared reference.

THE ART OF PROBLEM SOLVING, VOLUME 1

THE BASICS

Aops Incorporated “...offer[s] a challenging exploration of problem solving mathematics and preparation for programs such as MATHCOUNTS and the American Mathematics Competition.”--Back cover

SCHOOL, FAMILY, AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

YOUR HANDBOOK FOR ACTION

Corwin Press Strengthen family and community engagement to promote equity and increase student success! When schools, families, and communities collaborate and share responsibility for students' education, more students succeed in school. Based on 30 years of research and fieldwork, this fourth edition of a bestseller provides tools and guidelines to use to develop more effective and equitable programs of family and community engagement. Written by a team of well-known experts, this foundational text demonstrates a proven approach to implement and sustain inclusive, goal-oriented programs. Readers will find: Many examples and vignettes Rubrics and checklists for implementation of plans CD-ROM complete with slides and notes for workshop presentations

HOW PEOPLE LEARN II

LEARNERS, CONTEXTS, AND CULTURES

National Academies Press There are many reasons to be curious about the way people learn, and the past several decades have seen an explosion of research that has important implications for individual learning, schooling, workforce training, and policy. In 2000, *How People Learn: Brain, Mind, Experience, and School: Expanded Edition* was published and its influence has been wide and deep. The report summarized insights on the nature of learning in school-aged children; described principles for the design of effective learning environments; and provided examples of how that could be implemented in the classroom. Since then, researchers have continued to investigate the nature of learning and have generated new findings related to the neurological processes involved in learning, individual and cultural

variability related to learning, and educational technologies. In addition to expanding scientific understanding of the mechanisms of learning and how the brain adapts throughout the lifespan, there have been important discoveries about influences on learning, particularly sociocultural factors and the structure of learning environments. *How People Learn II: Learners, Contexts, and Cultures* provides a much-needed update incorporating insights gained from this research over the past decade. The book expands on the foundation laid out in the 2000 report and takes an in-depth look at the constellation of influences that affect individual learning. *How People Learn II* will become an indispensable resource to understand learning throughout the lifespan for educators of students and adults.

THE NEW MEANING OF EDUCATIONAL CHANGE

Burns & Oates First published in 1982, this work revolutionized the theory and practice of education reform. Now 25 years later, the fourth edition of Fullan's groundbreaking book continues to be the definitive compendium to all aspects of the management of educational change--a powerful resource for everyone involved in school reform.

HABITS OF MIND

A DEVELOPMENTAL SERIES

THE CAMBRIDGE HANDBOOK OF EXPERTISE AND EXPERT PERFORMANCE

Cambridge Handbooks in Psychol In this book, some of the world's foremost 'experts on expertise' provide scientific knowledge on expertise and expert performance.

CINCINNATI MAGAZINE

Cincinnati Magazine taps into the DNA of the city, exploring shopping, dining, living, and culture and giving readers a ringside seat on the issues shaping the region.

THE LEADER IN ME

HOW SCHOOLS AND PARENTS AROUND THE WORLD ARE INSPIRING GREATNESS, ONE CHILD AT A TIME

Simon and Schuster Children in today's world are inundated with information about who to be, what to do and how to live. But what if there was a way to teach children how to manage priorities, focus on goals and be a positive influence on the world around them? *The Leader in Me* is that programme. It's based on a hugely successful initiative carried out at the A.B. Combs Elementary School in North Carolina. To hear the parents of A. B Combs talk about the school is to be amazed. In 1999, the school debuted a programme that taught *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People* to a pilot group of students. The parents reported an incredible change in their children, who blossomed under the programme. By the end of the following year the average end-of-grade scores had leapt from 84 to 94. This book will launch the message onto a

much larger platform. Stephen R. Covey takes the 7 Habits, that have already changed the lives of millions of people, and shows how children can use them as they develop. Those habits -- be proactive, begin with the end in mind, put first things first, think win-win, seek to understand and then to be understood, synergize, and sharpen the saw -- are critical skills to learn at a young age and bring incredible results, proving that it's never too early to teach someone how to live well.

ATLANTA MAGAZINE

Atlanta magazine's editorial mission is to engage our community through provocative writing, authoritative reporting, and superlative design that illuminate the people, the issues, the trends, and the events that define our city. The magazine informs, challenges, and entertains our readers each month while helping them make intelligent choices, not only about what they do and where they go, but what they think about matters of importance to the community and the region. Atlanta magazine's editorial mission is to engage our community through provocative writing, authoritative reporting, and superlative design that illuminate the people, the issues, the trends, and the events that define our city. The magazine informs, challenges, and entertains our readers each month while helping them make intelligent choices, not only about what they do and where they go, but what they think about matters of importance to the community and the region.

RESPONSE TO INTERVENTION IN MATH

Corwin Press Provides educators with instructions on applying response-to-intervention (RTI) while teaching and planning curriculum for students with learning disabilities.

HOW TO BECOME A STRAIGHT-A STUDENT

THE UNCONVENTIONAL STRATEGIES REAL COLLEGE STUDENTS USE TO SCORE HIGH WHILE STUDYING LESS

*Crown Looking to jumpstart your GPA? Most college students believe that straight A's can be achieved only through cramming and painful all-nighters at the library. But Cal Newport knows that real straight-A students don't study harder—they study smarter. A breakthrough approach to acing academic assignments, from quizzes and exams to essays and papers, *How to Become a Straight-A Student* reveals for the first time the proven study secrets of real straight-A students across the country and weaves them into a simple, practical system that anyone can master. You will learn how to:*

- Streamline and maximize your study time
- Conquer procrastination
- Absorb the material quickly and effectively
- Know which reading assignments are critical—and which are not
- Target the paper topics that wow professors
- Provide A+ answers on exams
- Write stellar prose without the agony

*A strategic blueprint for success that promises more free time, more fun, and top-tier results, *How to Become a Straight-A Student* is the only study guide written by students for students—with the insider knowledge and real-world methods to help you master the college system and rise to the top of the class.*

CINCINNATI MAGAZINE

Cincinnati Magazine taps into the DNA of the city, exploring shopping, dining, living, and culture and giving readers a ringside seat on the issues shaping the region.

TALIS CREATING EFFECTIVE TEACHING AND LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS FIRST RESULTS FROM TALIS

FIRST RESULTS FROM TALIS

OECD Publishing This publication is the first report from the OECD's Teaching and Learning International Survey (TALIS). It provides quantitative, policy-relevant information on the teaching and learning environment in schools in 23 countries.

WORKING MOTHER

The magazine that helps career moms balance their personal and professional lives.

MCGRAW-HILL'S 10 ACT PRACTICE TESTS, SECOND EDITION

McGraw Hill Professional We want to give you the practice you need on the ACT McGraw-Hill's 10 ACT Practice Tests helps you gauge what the test measures, how it's structured, and how to budget your time in each section. Written by the founder and faculty of Advantage Education, one of America's most respected providers of school-based test-prep classes, this book provides you with the intensive ACT practice that will help your scores improve from each test to the next. You'll be able to sharpen your skills, boost your confidence, reduce your stress-and to do your very best on test day. 10 complete sample ACT exams, with full explanations for every answer 10 sample writing prompts for the optional ACT essay portion Scoring Worksheets to help you calculate your total score for every test Expert guidance in prepping students for the ACT More practice and extra help online ACT is a registered trademark of ACT, Inc., which was not involved in the production of, and does not endorse, this product.

DISSERTATION ABSTRACTS INTERNATIONAL

THE HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES. A

TOOLS OF THE MIND

THE VYGOTSKIAN APPROACH TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Prentice Hall This text is designed for advanced Curriculum, Methods, and Issues courses in Early Childhood Education and Child and Family Studies departments. As the only text of its kind, this book provides in-depth information about Vygotsky's theories, neo-Vygotskians' findings, and concrete explanations and strategies that instruct teachers how to influence student learning and development. Key changes to this edition include a new chapter on dynamic assessment, separate and expanded chapters on developmental accomplishments of infants and toddlers, preschool/kindergarten, and primary grades and o.

WORDLY WISE 3000

SYSTEMATIC ACADEMIC VOCABULARY DEVELOPMENT

Educators Publishing Service, Incorporated

WORKING MOTHER

The magazine that helps career moms balance their personal and professional lives.

CLASSROOM DISCUSSIONS

USING MATH TALK TO HELP STUDENTS LEARN, GRADES K-6

Math Solutions This best seller offers an unparalleled look at the significant role that classroom discussions can play in teaching mathematics and deepening students' mathematical understanding. Based on a four-year research project funded by the U.S. Department of Education, the second edition includes more examples of classroom talk focusing on pre-algebra and early grade levels; an expanded range of vignettes; chapter-ending discussion questions for book study groups; connections to NCTM's Principles and Standards for School Mathematics; and an index of every mathematical and Standards for School Mathematics; and an index of every mathematical example used, classified by grade level and mathematical emphasis.

GRIT

THE POWER OF PASSION AND PERSEVERANCE

Simon and Schuster In this instant New York Times bestseller, Angela Duckworth shows anyone striving to succeed that the secret to outstanding achievement is not talent, but a special blend of passion and persistence she calls "grit." "Inspiration for non-geniuses everywhere" (People). The daughter of a scientist who frequently noted her lack of "genius," Angela Duckworth is now a celebrated researcher and professor. It was her early eye-opening stints in teaching, business consulting, and neuroscience that led to her hypothesis about what really drives success: not genius, but a unique combination of passion and long-term perseverance. In *Grit*, she takes us into the field to visit cadets struggling through their first days at West Point, teachers working in some of the toughest schools, and young finalists in the National Spelling Bee. She also mines fascinating insights from history and shows what can be gleaned from modern experiments in peak performance. Finally, she shares what she's learned from interviewing dozens of high achievers—from JP Morgan CEO Jamie Dimon to New Yorker cartoon editor Bob Mankoff to Seattle Seahawks Coach Pete Carroll. "Duckworth's ideas about the cultivation of tenacity have clearly changed some lives for the better" (The New York Times Book Review). Among *Grit's* most valuable insights: any effort you make ultimately counts twice toward your goal; grit can be learned, regardless of IQ or circumstances; when it comes to child-rearing, neither a warm embrace nor high standards will work by themselves; how to trigger lifelong interest; the magic of the Hard Thing Rule; and so much more. Winningly personal, insightful, and even life-changing, *Grit* is a book about what goes through

your head when you fall down, and how that—not talent or luck—makes all the difference. This is “a fascinating tour of the psychological research on success” (The Wall Street Journal).

COACHING VOLLEYBALL FOR DUMMIES

John Wiley & Sons Your hands-on guide to coaching youth volleyball Have you been asked to coach a youth volleyball team? This friendly, practical guide helps you grasp the basics and take charge on the court. You get expert advice on teaching key skills to different age groups, running safe and effective practices, helping struggling players, encouraging good sportsmanship, and leading your team with confidence during a match. Lay the groundwork for a great season — develop your coaching philosophy, run an effective preseason meeting, and get up to speed on the rules and terminology of the sport Build your team — size up the players, find roles for everyone to succeed in, and coach all different types of kids Teach the basics of volleyball — from serving and passing to setting, attacking, and blocking, instruct your players successfully in all the key elements Raise the level of play — teach more advanced offensive and defensive skills and keep your kids' interest in volleyball going strong Make the moms and dads happy — work with parents to ensure a successful and fun season Score extra points — keep your players healthy and injury free, resolve conflicts, and coach a volleyball club team Open the book and find: Clear explanations of the game's fundamentals An assortment of the sport's best drills The equipment your team needs Player positions and their responsibilities Tips for running fun-filled practices Refinements for your coaching strategies How to meet players' special needs Ten ways to make the season memorable

DRIVEN BY DATA

A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO IMPROVE INSTRUCTION

John Wiley & Sons Offers a practical guide for improving schools dramatically that will enable all students from all backgrounds to achieve at high levels. Includes assessment forms, an index, and a DVD.

KNOWING WHAT STUDENTS KNOW

THE SCIENCE AND DESIGN OF EDUCATIONAL ASSESSMENT

National Academies Press Education is a hot topic. From the stage of presidential debates to tonight's dinner table, it is an issue that most Americans are deeply concerned about. While there are many strategies for improving the educational process, we need a way to find out what works and what doesn't work as well. Educational assessment seeks to determine just how well students are learning and is an integral part of our quest for improved education. The nation is pinning greater expectations on educational assessment than ever before. We look to these assessment tools when documenting whether students and institutions are truly meeting education goals. But we must stop and ask a crucial question: What kind of assessment is most effective? At a time when traditional testing is subject to

increasing criticism, research suggests that new, exciting approaches to assessment may be on the horizon. Advances in the sciences of how people learn and how to measure such learning offer the hope of developing new kinds of assessments—assessments that help students succeed in school by making as clear as possible the nature of their accomplishments and the progress of their learning. *Knowing What Students Know* essentially explains how expanding knowledge in the scientific fields of human learning and educational measurement can form the foundations of an improved approach to assessment. These advances suggest ways that the targets of assessment—what students know and how well they know it—as well as the methods used to make inferences about student learning can be made more valid and instructionally useful. Principles for designing and using these new kinds of assessments are presented, and examples are used to illustrate the principles. Implications for policy, practice, and research are also explored. With the promise of a productive research-based approach to assessment of student learning, *Knowing What Students Know* will be important to education administrators, assessment designers, teachers and teacher educators, and education advocates.

INDIANAPOLIS MONTHLY

Indianapolis Monthly is the Circle City's essential chronicle and guide, an indispensable authority on what's new and what's news. Through coverage of politics, crime, dining, style, business, sports, and arts and entertainment, each issue offers compelling narrative stories and lively, urbane coverage of Indy's cultural landscape.

PREPARING TEACHERS

BUILDING EVIDENCE FOR SOUND POLICY

National Academies Press Teachers make a difference. The success of any plan for improving educational outcomes depends on the teachers who carry it out and thus on the abilities of those attracted to the field and their preparation. Yet there are many questions about how teachers are being prepared and how they ought to be prepared. Yet, teacher preparation is often treated as an afterthought in discussions of improving the public education system. Preparing Teachers addresses the issue of teacher preparation with specific attention to reading, mathematics, and science. The book evaluates the characteristics of the candidates who enter teacher preparation programs, the sorts of instruction and experiences teacher candidates receive in preparation programs, and the extent that the required instruction and experiences are consistent with converging scientific evidence. Preparing Teachers also identifies a need for a data collection model to provide valid and reliable information about the content knowledge, pedagogical competence, and effectiveness of graduates from the various kinds of teacher preparation programs. Federal and state policy makers need reliable, outcomes-based information to make sound decisions, and teacher educators need to know how best to contribute to the development of effective teachers. Clearer understanding of the content and character of effective teacher preparation is critical to improving it and to ensuring

that the same critiques and questions are not being repeated 10 years from now.