**Learning**

**Give an opportunity to a wise man,  
and he will be yet wiser; teach a just man,  
and he will increase in learning.  
(Proverbs 9:9)**

**Someone with a gift for creativity once sent this note to a teacher to explain the absence of a pupil: Dear Miss Marlow: School is many things. It is learning not to throw toys. It is learning to share. It is putting your seat belt on in the school bus. It is putting things back where they belong. It is not pushing when someone is taking a drink from the water fountain. It is swings and skipping rope and bikes and hopscotch. It is crayons and scissors and paste pots. It is peanut butter sandwiches and apples and milk. School is where you learn all these things and get an education. But you can get part of your education outside of school too. You can listen to music from a big brass band. You can see amazing things -- like a man getting shot out of a cannon and trapeze artists somersaulting through the air. You can see elephants dance and poodles ride on the backs of ponies. You can laugh at clowns. You can eat hot dogs and cotton candy. Education is everything new and exciting. It's a circus! And that's why Mary wasn't in school yesterday. She was catching up on her education outside class. Please excuse her. (Bits & Pieces)**

**Every adult needs a child to teach; it’s the way adults learn. (Frank A. Clark, Register and Tribune Syndicate)**

**Learning is what most adults will do for a living in the 21st century. (Perelman)**

**Harold Macmillan, former British prime minister, recalling a professor’s advice: “Nothing you learn here at Oxford,” he told us in his opening remarks, “will be of the slightest possible use to you later, save only this: that if you work hard and intelligently, you should be able to detect when a man is talking rot. And that, in my view, is the main, if not the sole, purpose of education.” (Reader’s Digest)**

**The Afro-American experience is an American experience. Duke Ellington listened to George Gershwin and Paul Whiteman, Jelly Roll Morton to John Philip Sousa. Michael Jordan was taught by Dean Smith. Bix Beiderbecke learned from Louis Armstrong. These exchanges go on all the time in American life. We like to look at stuff as black and white, but most people's experience is not that way. *(Wynton Marsalis, interviewed by Tony Scherman, in American Heritage magazine)***

**Ten years after being falsely linked to the bombing at the Atlanta Olympics, security guard Richard Jewell has been honored for saving lives on that day. On July 27, 1996, Jewell motioned people away from a suspicious backpack in Centennial Park, just before it exploded, killing one person and injuring 111. Though never arrested or charged, Jewell was considered the top suspect for a time and was widely tarred with the crime in thousands of news reports around the globe. The real killer, Eric Rudolph, was caught in 2003. “No one can rewrite history,” said Jewell upon receiving his award from Georgia Governor Sonny Perdue. “We can only learn from it.” *(The Week magazine, August 18, 2006)***

**Almost every child would learn to write sooner if allowed to do his homework on wet cement. (Franklin P. Jones, in The Saturday Evening Post)**

**Curiosity is the wick in the candle of learning. (William A. Ward, in San Diego Tribune)**

**Education is learning what you didn't even know you didn't know.  
(Daniel J. Boorstin, in Democracy & Its Discontents)**

**As I was leaving church one Sunday, an elderly couple slowly moved down the narrow walk that led to the parking area. I tried to make my way around them, but they stopped to admire some flowers. When I tried to slip past, the woman bent over to smell a red rose, blocking my passage. Then the man smelled the rose, I waited patiently, along with others. As the man straightened up, he turned to me. “It took us almost a lifetime to learn to do that,” he said, and then moved on. (John Matus, in Reader's Digest)**

**In a business class at the University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point, we had to interview a variety of local people and write a report. I thought the assignment was a waste of time until I spoke with a 78-year-old farmer. “How much education do you have?” I asked. “Six years of schoolin’,” he replied. “And 72 years of learnin”. (S. G. H., in Reader's Digest)**

**Billy says to Jeffy: “This is my favorite learning place – Schoolhouse Earth.” (Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)**

**At the beach, the first thing a girl learns is that fellows with deep, rich, golden tans are unemployed. (Robert Orben)**

**The one thing you finally learn from history is that people don’t learn from history. (Bits & Pieces)**

**The illiterate of the future will not be the person who cannot read. It will be the person who does not know how to learn. (Alvin Toffler)**

**The trouble is that most of us learn our lessons too late. If we could only visualize the full meaning and full consequences of our acts, we could make a better life and a better world. *(Alden Palmer, in Fraternal Monitor)***

**Everything you teach you are learning. Teach only love, and learn that love is yours and you are love. (A Course In Miracles)**

**The things you learn in maturity aren't simple things such as acquiring information and skills. You learn not to engage in self-destructive behavior. You learn not to burn up energy in anxiety. You discover how to manage your tensions. You learn that self-pity and resentment are among the most toxic of drugs. You find that the world loves talent but pays off on character. You come to understand that most people are neither for you nor against you; they are thinking about themselves. You learn that no matter how hard you try to please, some people in this world are not going to love you -- a lesson that is at first troubling and then really quite relaxing. (John W. Gardner, from a speech)**

**We've learned more in the past 15 years than in all of human history. We can take somebody who is totally paralyzed, put a chip in (his) brain, and have that person control a laptop. (Michio Kaku, physicist)**

**People cannot learn by having information pressed into their brains. Knowledge has to be sucked into the brain, not pushed in. First, one must create a state of mind that craves knowledge, interest and wonder. You can teach only by creating an urge to know. (Victor Weisskopf, in The Privilege of Being a Physicist)**

**The ancient Greeks knew that learning comes from playing. Their concept for education (paideia) is almost identical to their concept for play (paidia). (Roger von Oech, in A Whack on the Side of the Head , p. 97)**

**What we learn with pleasure we never forget. (Alfred Mercier)**

**Renewal is an idea that my friend John Gardner, founder of Common Cause, turns to again and again. As John says, "It's what you learn after you know it all that counts." (Liz Carpenter)**

**I can learn something from everybody, although it's often something I really didn't want to know. (Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)**

**To learn something new, take the path that you took yesterday. (John Burroughs)**

**THE MEANS JUSTIFY THE END: Summer camp is where kids go to learn how to start a fire without matches -- how to find their way without a compass -- how to avoid poison ivy -- what to do if they come face-to-face with a bear, a wolf, or a rattlesnake -- and all the other things they wouldn't have to know if they hadn't gone to summer camp. (The Monadnock Shopper News)**

**To teach is to learn twice. (Joseph Joubert)**

**Try to learn something about everything and everything about something. (Thomas Henry Huxley)**

**We have to learn to be our own best friends because we fall too easily into the trap of being our worst enemies. (Roderick Thorp, in Rainbow Drive)**

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