

THE IMAGINATION AGE

In 1889, Charles H. Duell was the Commissioner of US patent office. He stated that the patent office would soon shrink in size, and eventually close, because...

"Everything that can be invented has been invented." What this demonstrates is that Charles definitely had little or no ability to imagine.

Imagination is more important than knowledge - because knowledge is limited to all we now know and understand, while imagination involves the entire world and all there ever will be to know and understand. Yesterday's knowledge alone will not suffice.

We are now living in the Imagination Age, where creativity supersedes information as a source of business advantage. Extensive and highly-acclaimed studies tells us that employers in the business world requires creative, agile, problem-solving employees that can generate and implement creative ideas.

The Imagination Age is the theoretical period beyond the Information Age, where creativity and imagination become the prime creators of economic value.

The ability to imagine things influences everything we do, think about and create - and leads to new theories, dreams and inventions. Imagination is the key to innovation.

The belief that imagination is somehow inferior to logical reasoning can often stifle or smother potentially great ideas. Not only can this belief hinder great ideas, but indicates a lack of understanding about the important role that imagination plays in human life.

Imagination is essential to help learners develop many critical lifelong skills. Young children use their powers of imagination to turn a box into a row boat or a piece of cloth into a cape for a superhero. They may spend hours playing make-believe, turning everyday objects into other things. Imaginative play helps children develop the creativity and problem-solving skills they will use in the future.

The delicate balance between the various regions of our brain creates the basis for our imaginings. When our minds are not engaged in some task the default mode is activated and we begin to remember the past, imagine the future and try to imagine the possibilities.

Without imagination the world is colourless and flat. It is similar to a garden without flowers or a room without windows. Imagination allows us to see things which may not exist in the real world.

When we give ourselves the time and permission to imagine we are opening up new parts of our brains. These are 'use it or lose it' scenarios - the more time we spend imagining, the more we are flexing our brains.

Learning to tap into this resource can help us think new thoughts, improve our ability to make connections, and recognise new relationships. Imagining future success can help provide the foundations for future victories.

SOME WHO SAW THE POWER OF IMAGINATION

Logic will get you from A to B. Imagination will take you everywhere.
- Albert Einstein

The world of reality has its limits; the world of imagination is boundless.
- Jean-Jacques Rousseau

I saw the angel in the marble and carved until I set him free.
- Michelangelo

Imagination rules the world. - Napoleon Bonaparte

All successful people men and women are big dreamers. They imagine what their future could be, ideal in every respect, and then they work every day toward their distant vision, that goal or purpose. - Brian Tracy

You can't do it unless you can imagine it. - George Lucas

To invent, you need a good imagination and a pile of junk. - Thomas A. Edison

New ideas pass through three periods: 1) It can't be done. 2) It probably can be done, but it's not worth doing. 3) I knew it was a good idea all along!
- Arthur C. Clarke

Imagination has brought mankind through the dark ages to its present state of civilization. Imagination led Columbus to discover America. Imagination led Franklin to discover electricity. - L. Frank Baum

When you're curious, you find lots of interesting things to do. - Walt Disney

Think left and think right and think low and think high. Oh, the things you can think up if only you try! - Dr. Seuss

I doubt that the imagination can be suppressed. If you truly eradicated it in a child, he would grow up to be an eggplant. - Ursula K. Le Guin

A good teacher can inspire hope, ignite the imagination, and instill a love of learning. - Brad Henry

Imagination is the highest kite one can fly. - Lauren Bacall

The level of our success is limited only by our imagination and no act of kindness, however small, is ever wasted. - Aesop

When you start to develop your powers of empathy and imagination, the whole world opens up to you. - Susan Sarandon