Child Centered Learning is Learning that **LASTS**

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Learner-centered or Child-centered learning. Learning is socially shared work. Children learn new material by connecting the new material to what they already know. They must first see things concretely and in the context of what is familiar to them. Here are questions to ask to see if the learning event is learner-centered.

- Is the task relevant for the age of the learner?
- Is the task doable by the learner?
- Is the task of interest to the learner?
- Is the task planned with respect for the learner?
- Is the task planned with the physical and psychological safety of the learner in mind?
- Negative experiences for young learners have long term effects. Pleasant experiences encourage learning, produces positive feelings and long term learning.

**Action with Reflection:**

- Children’s learning should be active.
- Children learn by doing.
- The freedom to experiment leads to learning.
- First stage learning is often the experience of working with real objects, handling things rather than just reading about something or copying information down from the black board.
- The freedom to construct meaning from the completion of the task

**Solving Problems:**

- Teacher directed action.
- The teacher sets the learning task before the child.
- These tasks have been selected because they are do-able (within the ability of the child, relevant, and will stimulate the child’s creativity)

**Teamwork:**

- The learning tasks are accomplished through a variety of groupings (working alone, in pairs, in groups)
- Learning to listen to the ideas and thoughts of others and learning to work together towards the solution of a problem builds good learning habits and emphasizes the value of the community.

**Self-discovery:**

- Children gain confidence when they find that they can be successful in completing a learning task.
- We remember best what we have learned through our own discovery.
- *(Judith Charlock – Accelerated Learning)* – We learn:
  - 10% of what we read
  - 20% of what we hear
  - 30% of what we see
  - 50% of what we see and hear
  - 70% of what we say
  - 90% of what we say and do

And don’t forget Lots of Praise and Encouragement!