

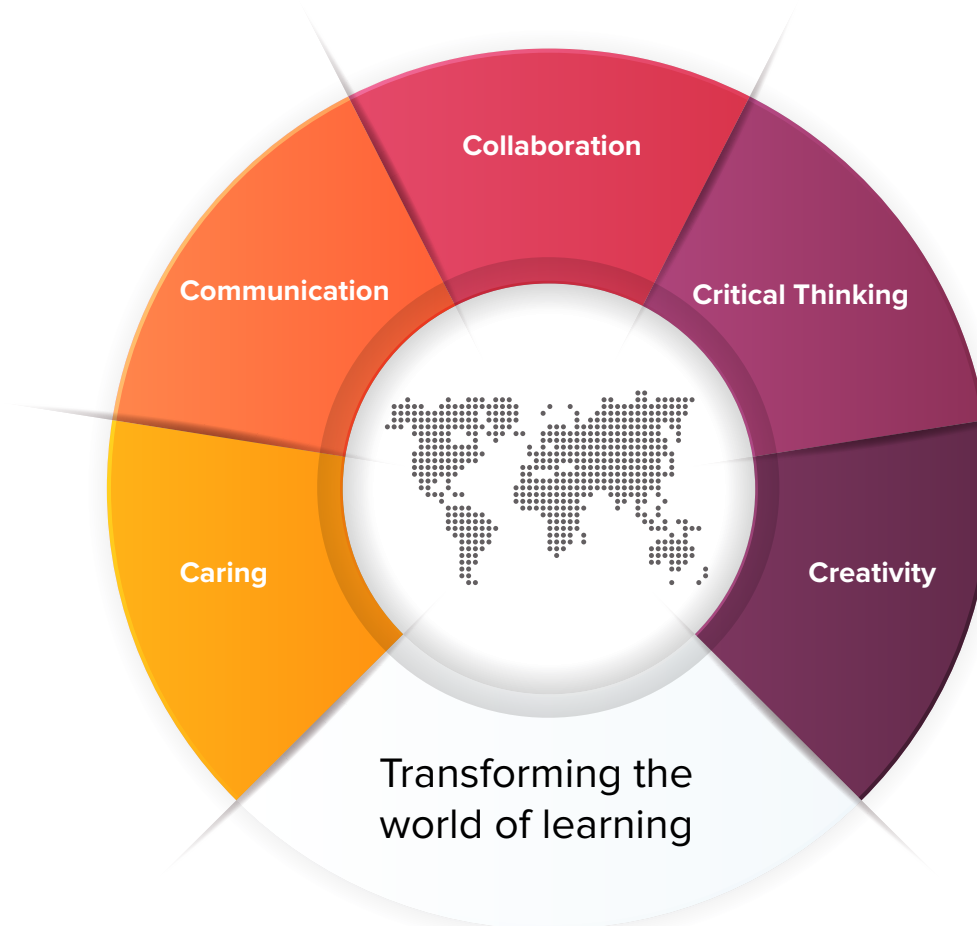
EDUCATION RETHOUGHT

Examples From Around the World

When we think about children's learning, we often focus on "reading, writing, and arithmetic." As students progress through school, we expand that focus to include science, geography, history, and more. Yet, the learning process is much broader and deeper than traditional school subjects. As children grow and develop in their families and communities, they learn incredibly impactful lessons about communication, cooperation, and caring; they learn about problem-solving and critical thinking; and they learn about their unique identities and the creative contributions they have to offer the world.

Learning isn't just about the content, but also the context. As a result, sometimes, the lessons children learn are negative ones. Without a caring, supportive environment in which they are safe and their basic needs are met, they may learn to be withdrawn, rather than communicative; they may learn to be obstructive, rather than cooperative; they may learn to be selfish, instead of caring. Without a stimulating, quality education, they may learn to seek prepackaged answers, rather than working

through problems themselves and carefully analyzing information to find the unbiased truths. Without receiving respect as individuals and opportunities to express themselves creatively, they may learn to repress their voice and talents, rather than confidently sharing and implementing their ideas and fulfilling their dreams.



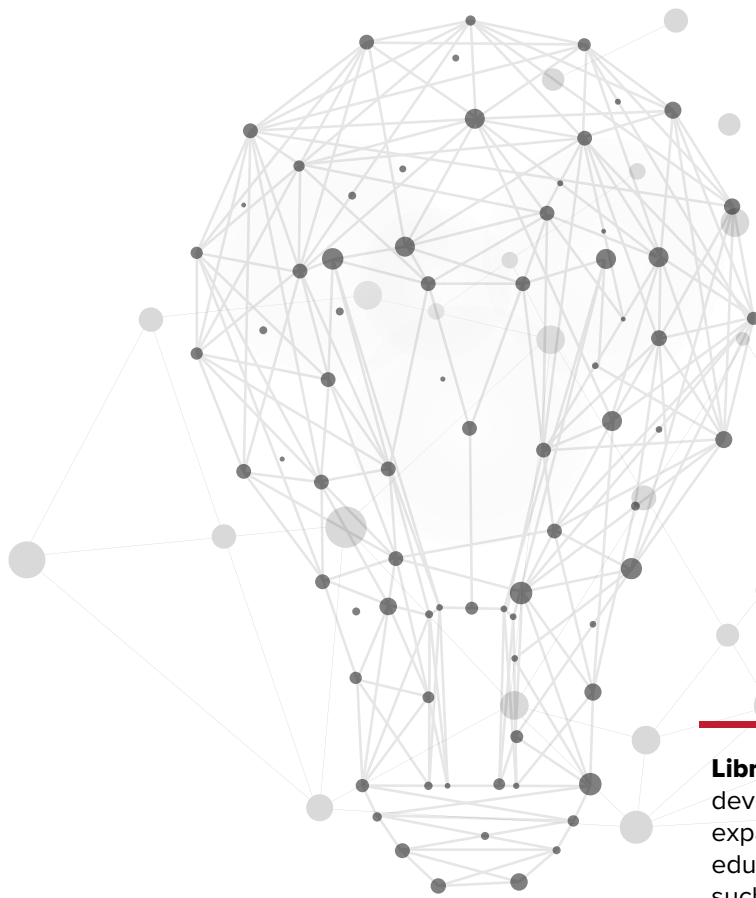
To ensure that our students are learning the lessons that will allow them reach their full potential and make positive contributions to society, it is imperative that we don't just reflect upon *what* we are teaching, but also *how* we are teaching them. The world is complex and ever-changing; if we want to open more quality learning opportunities for more children worldwide, our education systems and services must be responsive and flexible. We must rethink traditional education systems and processes, remaining open to new ideas about where and when students learn, who teaches them and how, and what we teach and why. For education to be revolutionary, it must first be evolutionary.

Around the world, educators and child advocates are transforming learning as they find new ways of reaching and engaging young people. We celebrate their work and encourage others to rethink education in their own contexts. As inspiration, the next page presents some examples of how innovative educators and organizations are providing meaningful and transformative educational experiences.

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Around the world, educators and child advocates are transforming learning as they find new ways of reaching and engaging young people, providing meaningful and transformative educational experiences.



Roots of Empathy brings infants into the classroom to help raise students' social/emotional competence and increase empathy, which is foundational to helping children navigate relationships, form connections, and be inclusive of others.

<https://rootsofempathy.org/>

iEARN empowers teachers and young people to work together online using the Internet and other new communications technologies. Students around the world engage in collaborative project work.

<http://www.iearn.org>

Anji Play is an innovative early childhood curriculum that focuses on play-based pedagogy through site-specific environments, unique materials, and integrated technology.

www.anjiplay.com

BRAC Boat Schools, operating in Bangladesh and the Philippines, make free state education available on traveling boats for children living in areas submerged by water during flood seasons.

<https://www.brac.net/program/floating-schools-for-climate-change>

Libraries Without Borders develops innovative tools that expand access to information, education, and cultural resources, such as refugee camps, rural and isolated communities, and underserved urban spaces or indigenous communities.

www.librarieswithoutborders.org

The Global Oneness Project uses immersive storytelling and curricula to explore the deeper issues facing humanity. Through competitions, they encourage students to communicate their own stories.

www.globalonenessproject.org

Teach A Man To Fish helps schools and youth groups around the world to create fully functional youth-led businesses that are both educational and profitable.

www.teachamantofish.org.uk

World Reader provides people in the developing world with free access to a library of digital books via e-readers and mobile phones.

www.worldreader.org



Caring • Communication • Cooperation • Critical Thinking • Creativity

Many of these examples and more have been profiled in *CE Innovations*. For more information about subscriptions and submissions, visit <https://ceinternational1892.org/what-we-do/globalfriends/>.